

HISTORY

OF



THE

FIFTEENTH

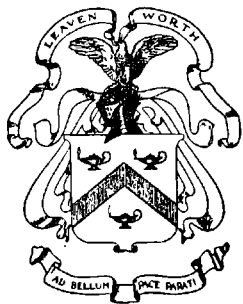
UNITED STATES ARMY

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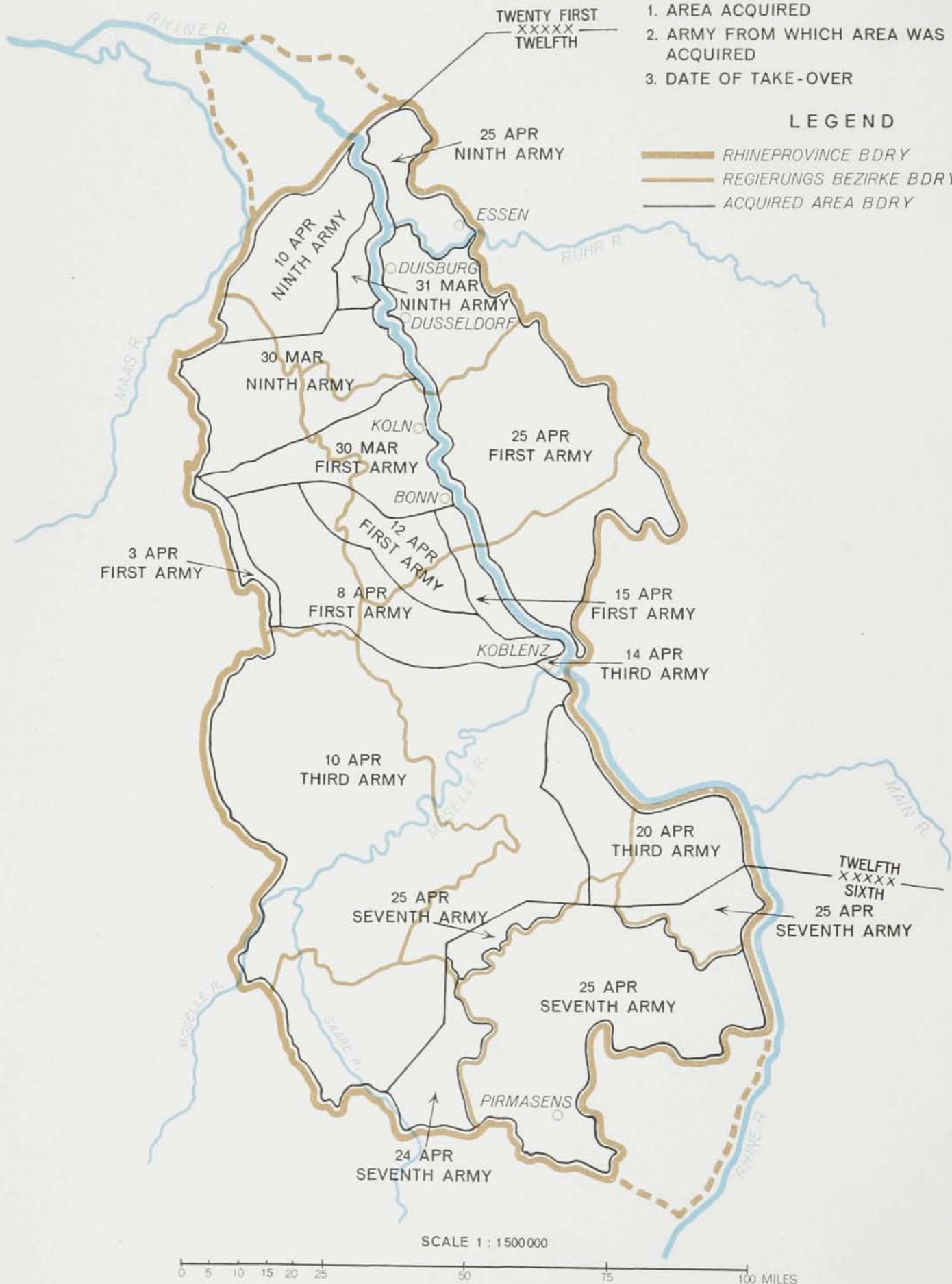
# RHINEPROVINCE MILITARY DISTRICT FIFTEENTH U. S. ARMY

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3. DATE OF TAKE-OVER

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**HISTORY**  
**of the**  
**FIFTEENTH UNITED STATES ARMY**

**21 August 1944 to 11 July 1945**



Lieutenant General LEONARD T. GEROW

Photo taken in December, 1944, when Lt. General (then Major General) Gerow was commanding the V Corps in the "Battle of the Ardennes"

## FOREWORD

The Fifteenth United States Army was the last Allied army to enter the conflict against Germany, arriving on the Continent during the latter part of December 1944. Yet during the few short months of operations, it met with and solved a host of varied problems in a singularly efficient manner. Its personnel can well be proud of the contribution it made to both the war effort and the preliminary stages of German occupation.

The Fifteenth Army shared in the preparation of detailed plans for the occupation of the Bremen-Bremerhaven Enclave; it conducted the Meuse River survey, with the view of assuming responsibility for the defense of that line in the event of an enemy breakthrough; it prepared the Berlin District Plan. It received, trained, and equipped organizations newly arrived from the United Kingdom and the United States, and it rehabilitated, re-equipped, and reinforced various units that had suffered heavy losses during the Ardennes Campaign.

During the month of April 1945, the Fifteenth Army conducted operations on two fronts: the 66th Infantry Division containing German forces within the Lorient-St. Nazaire Pockets, while the XXII Corps aided in the greatest double-envelopment in the history of military tactics — that of the Ruhr Pocket. On 7 and 8 May, the army received the surrender of the German forces in Lorient, St. Nazaire, and the surrounding territory.

As the advance of the American armies proceeded eastward from the Rhine, the Fifteenth Army occupied, organized, and governed the Rheinprovinz, Saarland, Pfalz, and that portion of Hessen west of the Rhine river. Toward the end of May, it organized the Rheinprovinz Military District Provincial Government, and established an effective civil administration within the entire area.

Finally, its work completed, the Fifteenth United States Army passed control of its area to the British and the French, relinquishing the territory held by the XXII Corps by 15 June and that held by the XXIII Corps by 10 July 1945.

This book is a brief record of these activities. I am deeply grateful to the officers and men of the Fifteenth Army whose unselfish devotion to duty in the performance of every assigned mission added these pages to the glorious history of our nation.

L. T. GEROW  
Lieutenant General, U. S. Army  
Commanding General  
Fifteenth US Army

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## CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### *Activation and Movement Overseas*

The Fifteenth United States Army, as represented by army headquarters, headquarters company, and special troops, was activated 21 August 1944 at Fort Sam Houston, Texas, in compliance with the orders of Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, Washington, D. C.

In reality, the activation consisted of a group transfer of the personnel of Headquarters, Headquarters Company, and Special Troops, Fourth United States Army, to the Fifteenth Army. Simultaneously, operation of the Fourth Army was taken over by personnel previously carried by that army as augmented strength.

No general officer was included in the transfer of personnel from the Fourth Army to the Fifteenth Army, but Major General *Commanding General* John P. Lucas, Fourth Army, was *Commanding General* (designate) of the new Fifteenth Army in addition to his other duties. Headquarters, Fifteenth Army, was then assigned to the Fourth Army.

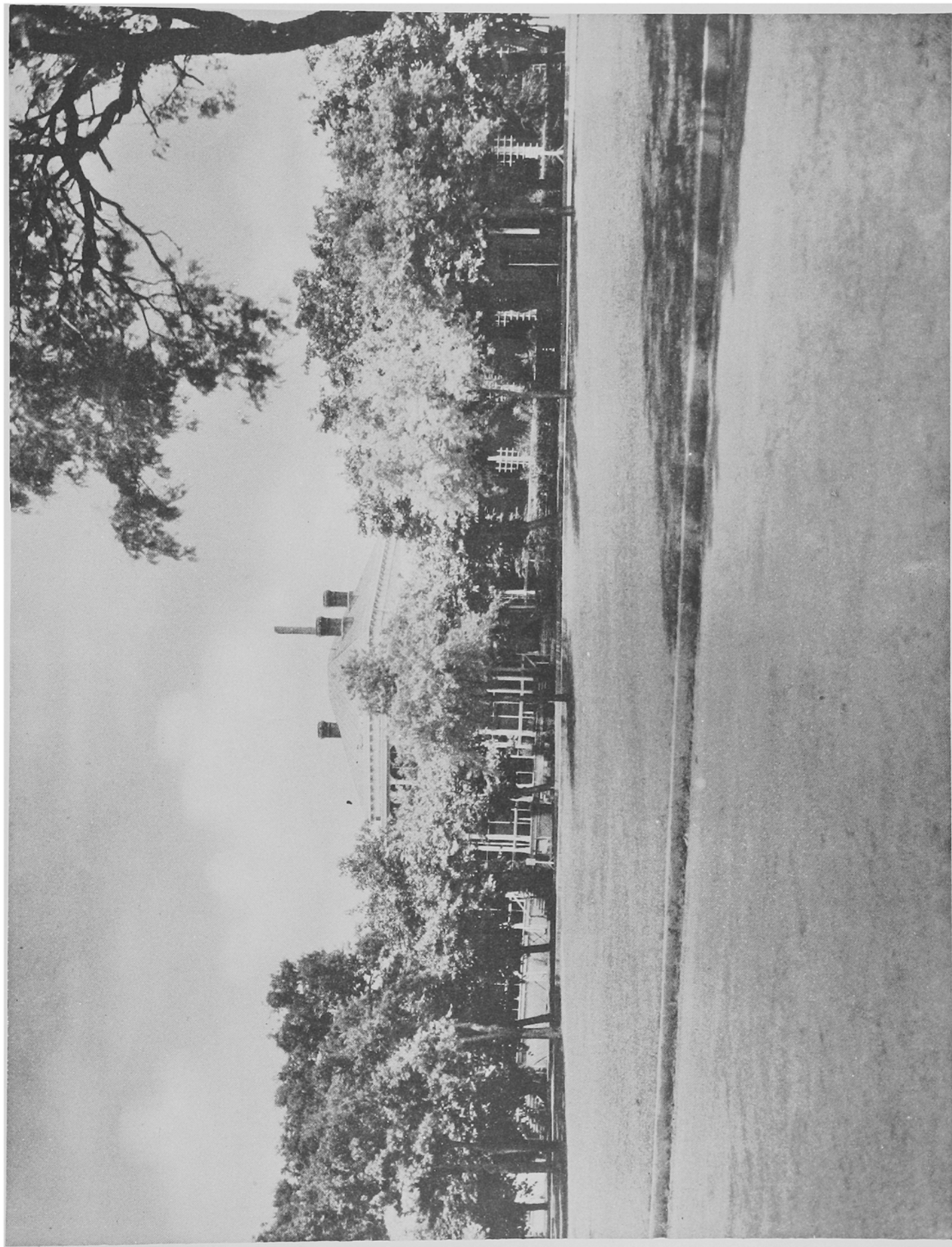
Personnel of the Fifteenth Army continued to work in their respective Fourth Army sections until the week of 4 September 1944, at which time Fifteenth Army moved to other offices in Fort Sam Houston.

Even prior to the activation of the new army, an overseas advance detachment had been formed early in July 1944, when the *Advance Detachment* Commanding General, Fourth United States Army, was notified by Headquarters, Army Ground Forces, that the proposed Fifteenth Army would be alerted for overseas movement and that an advance detachment was to be ready by 1 September 1944. The officer members of this detachment, as reported to Army Ground Forces, comprised the following:

	Name	Section
Colonel	William E. Donegan	(Commanding) G-3
Colonel	Holmes L. Ginn Jr.	Surgeon's Office
Colonel	William H. W. Reinburg	G-2
Colonel	Donald D. McCaskey	QM
Colonel	Carlisle B. Wilson	G-1
Colonel	Paul R. Knight	Hq Commandant
Lt. Col.	Carl B. Smith	G-4
Lt. Col.	Ralph T. Nelson	Signal
Lt. Col.	Howard A. Morris	Engineer
Lt. Col.	Percival C. Wooters	Ordnance
Lt. Col.	John A. Gavin	G-3
Lt. Col.	John V. Roddy	Artillery
Major	Emory W. Cofield	AG
Captain	William C. McLaughlin	Chief of Staff
CWO	Charles A. Eisenhower	Chief of Staff

In addition to the above named officers, thirteen enlisted men rounded out the detachment.





HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH ARMY - FORT SAM HOUSTON, TEXAS





DODDINGTON HALL FRONT VIEW

On 23 August 1944, the detachment received its port call, directing its presence at Fort Hamilton, New York, no later than 1200 hours 9 September 1944.

The detachment left San Antonio the morning of 6 September 1944, for New York City, where on 8 September, it was moved to the Fort Hamilton staging area.

The following day, however, the detachment commander was notified by the New York Port of Embarkation that a warning order had been received which indicated the recall of the *Advance Party* advanced detachment to Fort Sam Houston. The recall *Recalled* directive was received 10 September 1944, and orders were issued directing the detachment's return to Fort Sam Houston.

On 12 September, the detachment left Fort Hamilton and arrived at San Antonio, evening of 14 September 1944. At the same time, the War Department issued orders rescinding the still unexecuted portions of the advance detachment's original movement order.

Approximately a month after the advance detachment returned to Fort Sam Houston, another port call was received 18 October 1944 by the Fifteenth United States Army, directing that an advance *Second Advance* unit report at the Fort Slocum staging area of the New *Detachment* York Port of Embarkation by 27 October 1944. On 24 October 1944, a port call came for the main body of the Fifteenth Army, ordering it to be ready for departure from Fort Sam Houston on or about 2 November 1944.

The second advance detachment, which preceded the main body to Fort Slocum and eventually to the European Theater of Operations, was commanded by Colonel William E. Wilkinson of the Surgeon's Section. Accompanying him were the following officers:

	Name	Section
	Lt. Col. Thomas A. O'Neil	G-1
	Lt. Col. Hugh H. Sargent	G-2
	Lt. Col. John A. Gavin	G-3
	Lt. Col. Emory W. Cofield	AG
	Lt. Col. Carl B. Smith	G-4
	Lt. Col. Percival C. Wooters	Ordnance
	Lt. Col. Elbridge Bacon, Jr.	Engineer
	Lt. Col. Joseph M. McKee, Jr.	Quartermaster
	Lt. Col. Ralph T. Nelson	Signal
	Captain H. Schwartzmueller	Hq Commandant

In addition to the above named officers, there were ten enlisted men in the group.

The second detachment arrived at Fort Slocum on 27 October 1944, for overseas shipment. On 30 October, the unit was alerted and four days later it sailed from New York on the Queen Mary for Greenock, *Doddington* Scotland. Debarking on 10 November 1944, the party travelled *Hall* by rail and bus to an estate known as Doddington Hall, approximately six miles from Nantwich, Cheshire County, England, where the members were billeted together with the advance party of the XXII Corps, which later was to come under operational control of the Fifteenth United States Army.

While the advance detachment was enroute to England, the main body of the Fifteenth Army completed preparation for its movement overseas.

**Main Body** Under the direction of Colonel Louis Compton, Army Artillery Officer, who had been named commanding officer of the Fifteenth Army as of 2 November 1944, the main body left Fort Sam Houston on 2 November. The movement consisted of 239 officers, 25 warrant officers, and 778 enlisted men, and arrived at Fort Slocum on 6 November 1944. This unit sailed from the Port of New York aboard the Aquitania on 15 November 1944.

On 22 November 1944, the Aquitania dropped anchor in the Firth of Clyde off Gourock, Scotland. The Fifteenth Army officers and men were taken to temporary headquarters at Doddington Hall. On 24 November 1944, Fifteenth Army Headquarters began operations.

In England, the Army was attached to the Western District of the United Kingdom Base Section. On 25 November, information was received that the Fifteenth Army would be attached to the Twelfth Army Group and stationed at the Chateau D'Ardennes in the vicinity of Dinant, Belgium.

Instructions received from ETOUSA directed the following named chiefs of general staff sections and the Adjutant General to proceed to Paris and report to the Assistant Chief of Staff, G-3, for instructions:

	Name	Section
Colonel	Carlisle B. Wilson	G-1
Colonel	William H. W. Reinburg	G-2
Colonel	William E. Donegan	G-3
Colonel	Charles H. Bryan	G-4
Colonel	Winfield C. Scott	AG

Upon reporting to ETOUSA, Colonel William E. Donegan was designated Acting Chief of Staff, Fifteenth Army. Conferences were held with the Chief of Staff and the chiefs of general staff sections of General Lucien Truscott's staff which had established an advanced CP at Dinant, Belgium. Arrangements were made for the Fifteenth Army to take over the CP at Chateau d'Ardennes and the enlisted men thereat were transferred to the Fifteenth Army. On or about 3 December, General Truscott and his staff departed for Italy.

The advance party left Paris for Dinant, Belgium, where on 14 December they were joined by the following personnel who had moved directly from the United Kingdom to the advance CP:

	Name	Section
Colonel	Donald D. McCaskey	Quartermaster
Colonel	Emil J. Peterson	Engineer
Colonel	Austin M. Wilson, Jr.	Antiaircraft Artillery
Colonel	George E. Burritt	Artillery
Colonel	Horace M. Woodward, Jr.	Chemical Warfare
Colonel	Richard Z. Crane	Inspector General
Colonel	Julien C. Hyer	Judge Advocate
Colonel	L. Holmes Ginn, Jr.	Medical
Colonel	Gabriel T. MacKenzie	Ordnance
Colonel	John J. Downing	Signal
Lt. Col.	Thomas A. O'Neil	G-1

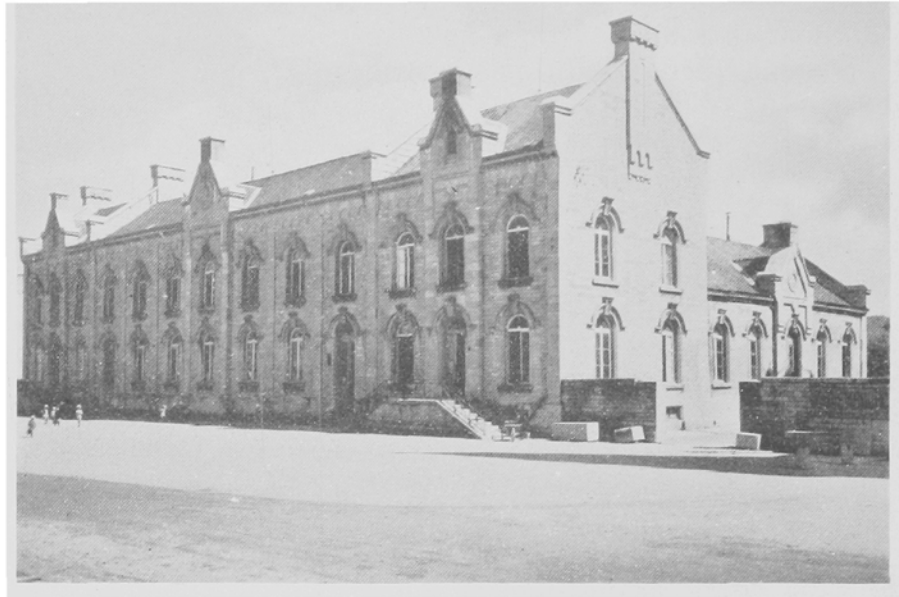
Lt. Col.	Hugh H. Sargent	G-2
Lt. Col.	Maston S. Parham	G-3
Lt. Col.	John A. Gavin	G-3
Lt. Col.	Carl B. Smith	G-4
Lt. Col.	Francis G. Brennecke	Counter-Intelligence
Lt. Col.	Elbridge Bacon, Jr.	Engineer
Lt. Col.	Robert H. Holmes, Jr.	Special Service
Lt. Col.	Nathan A. McLamb	Antiaircraft Artillery
Lt. Col.	Howard A. Morris	Engineer
Lt. Col.	Benjamin H. Evans	Quartermaster
Major	Kurt G. Radtke	G-3
Major	Edwin P. Van Gise	G-3
Major	John G. Fairbanks	G-4
Major	John C. Ruggaber	G-4
Major	Charles Bodine	Adjutant General
Major	Norman A. Flaningam	Adjutant General
Major	Sanford P. England	Artillery
Major	Richard N. Berry	Engineer
Major	Russell Hicock	Signal
Captain	David S. Williams	Counter-Intelligence
Captain	Alfred Morris, Jr.	Adjutant General
Captain	Ray R. Donald	Headquarters Commandant
Captain	Robert G. Kerber	Quartermaster
Lt.	Glenn H. Hickman	Counter-Intelligence
Lt.	James E. Kelly	Headquarters Commandant
Lt.	C. R. Ballard	Signal

The work of the advance party at the Chateau d'Ardennes progressed well until the middle of December when Field Marshal *Von Rundstedt and the Bulge* von Rundstedt, making his final bid for victory, threw his troops into Luxembourg and Belgium. The CP of the Fifteenth Army was definitely endangered by this thrust.

On 21 December 1944, the threat of the approaching Nazis was such that the headquarters evacuated the Chateau d'Ardennes and moved to Cerfontaine, Belgium. Three days later a second move was made, this time to Fme de Suippes in France, approximately 40 kilometers from Rheims.

The main body of the headquarters departed from Doddington Hall by train for a staging area at Southampton, England, on 25 December 1944 and boarded the Empire Javelin, a British ship, on the afternoon of 26 December. There were 208 officers and 624 enlisted men in this group.

At 0900 on Thursday, 28 December, the ship sailed from Southampton. The crossing was uneventful until the ship was at about mid-channel where, at about 1440 hours, a terrific explosion rocked the vessel. *Empire Javelin Disaster* The blast, which came without warning of any kind and which was later ascribed to a German mine or torpedo, was below the waterline on the starboard side of the vessel, slightly aft of midship. It left the Empire Javelin crippled; she was unable to turn her propellers and her rudder was useless.



Headquarters, Fifteenth United States Army, Cerfontaine, Belgium.

A general alarm was sounded at once, and all the troops, numbering 268 officers and 1,215 enlisted men, assembled on the main deck. In the meantime, the French frigate L'Escarmouche, commanded by Captain de Lesquen du Plessis-Easso, which had been nearby when the blast occurred, came alongside and stood by. At 1600 hours, somewhat more than an hour after the explosion, it was decided to abandon ship. The French captain edged the L'Escarmouche alongside the British vessel and made fast to her port side, and then the troops boarded the frigate by jumping from the Empire Javelin's deck to that of the L'Escarmouche.

The transfer of personnel to the French ship took but 55 minutes, with the transfer of the last American soldier to the L'Escarmouche at 1700 hours. At 1715, another explosion shook the Empire Javelin in the area of Number 4 hatch, aft, and the ship began to settle at the stern. Then minutes afterwards, at 1725, she disappeared.

While the transfer of men was under way, several other ships, including two LST's had appeared on the scene. Approximately half the men aboard the frigate were transferred to one LST and taken directly to Le Havre; the other LST accidentally collided with the frigate and for safety's sake it was decided to keep the remaining troops aboard L'Escarmouche.

The frigate then started for Portsmouth, the nearest large British harbor. Later she received new orders, and before reaching Portsmouth, turned around and headed for Le Havre where, using landing craft, the personnel debarked at 0500 on 29 December.

Thirteen men were missing in action as a result of the explosion and sinking and 20 men had been injured, two of them seriously. In the opinion of Colonel Louis J. Compton, commanding the main body, the light casualty list was due to the soldierly conduct and discipline of the passengers, and the foresight and skilled seamanship of Captain McLean of the Empire Javelin, Captain de Lesquen de Plessis-Easso of L'Escarmouche, and the Commanders of the American vessels.

Later, under General Orders No. 3, Headquarters, Fifteenth United States Army, the Purple Heart Medal was awarded to eight  
*Purple Heart Awards* Fifteenth Army officers and 21 enlisted men "for wounds received as the result of enemy action on 28 December 1944, in the European Theater of Operations."

The awards went to:

Chaplain (Colonel) John T. Axton	Tec 5 Robert B. Christison
Colonel Bert N. Bryan	Tec 5 Vance M. Crawford
Colonel William E. Wilkinson	Tec 5 William F. Quinn
Colonel James B. Mockbee	Tec 5 William G. Cunningham
Lt. Col. Ralph T. Nelson	Pfc William H. Blakesley
Major Claude D. Cotton, Jr.	Pfc Nolice W. Bowen
Captain Albert P. Fisher	Pfc Samuel Di Dio
Captain Thomas H. Glenn	Sgt Richard L. Thorpe
M/Sgt Paul L. Tupper	Tec 4 Frank G. Bradley
S/Sgt Joseph E. McDonald	Tec 4 Stanley G. Mason
Tec 3 Frederick Missenharter	Pfc Charles W. Daniels



**The Red Cross building at Suippes.**



**The Post Theater at Suippes, France.**

Tec 4 Gene F. Pipoly  
Tec 4 Raymond M. Schwel  
Cpl Robert S. Lindsey  
Tec 5 Donald E. Abram

Pfc Francis J. Sedlak  
Pvt Verlyn J. Kane  
Pvt George M. Schantz, Jr.

Major General Ray E. Porter, then Acting Commanding General of the Fifteenth Army, on 13 January 1945, issued the following commendation to the Fifteenth Army personnel who had been aboard the Empire Javelin:

"The recent movements of this headquarters were accomplished under difficult circumstances for all personnel. Many officers and enlisted men were subjected to the gravest and most trying perils incident to war. The good order and discipline which prevailed and the courage and determination displayed in the face of great danger and the energy, high spirit and efficiency with which all performed their assigned tasks are sources of great satisfaction.

"You have initiated a high standard of performance which it is confidently expected you will pursue and develop to the end that this headquarters will contribute material service in the march of our armed forces to ultimate victory.

"I pay deserving tribute to the faithful and efficient service of those good soldiers whose lives were lost. I offer a humble prayer that the families and loved ones of our fallen comrades may find divine comfort in their hour of great sorrow and that our wounded may be granted speedy and satisfactory recovery."

The main body departed from the Harfleur area, Le Havre for Suippes at 0600 on 3 January, the last elements closing into the new CP by 1800 hours.

The day before, Major General Ray E. Porter, United States Army, arrived at Suippes to assume command of the army. No staff accompanied him and Colonel Donegan was directed to retain his position as Acting Chief of Staff. Calling all section chiefs together on the evening of 3 January 1945, General Porter outlined the mission of the Fifteenth Army, explaining its assignment to the Twelfth Army Group and its responsibility to SHAEF. The Fifteenth Army became operational at 0900 Saturday, 6 January 1945.

Colonel Orlando C. Mood, GSC, Chief of Staff, V Corps, reported 6 January 1945, at Suippes, France, for duty as Chief of Staff, Fifteenth Army.



## CHAPTER II

## PRELIMINARY OPERATIONS

On 16 January 1945, Lieutenant General (then Major General) Leonard T. Gerow assumed command of the Fifteenth United States Army. *General Gerow* He came to the army from V Corps, which had just distinguished itself by stopping von Rundstedt's right wing, the 6th SS Panzer Army, in all its attempts to break through the Monschau Area road net and advance to the Meuse.

Shortly before General Gerow's appointment, Fifteenth Army received its first limited mission, that of rehabilitating, reequipping and reinforcing various units that had suffered heavy losses during the *Limited Mission* Ardenne Campaign. Soon thereafter, the army was given the added function of handling administrative details connected with the arrival at the Northern ports of all units from the United Kingdom and the United States.

To expedite the processing of Field Force units through the staging areas and on to their destinations, the Field Force Detachment, Headquarters Fifteenth US Army, was activated on *The Field Force Port Detachment* the 19th of January 1945 and located at Rouen, France. This detachment was composed of personnel from the general and special staff sections of the Fifteenth US Army.

All arriving troops were under the command of the Communications Zone during their staging phase; therefore the Field Force Port Detachment contributed the greater portion of its efforts in coordinating its activities with the Headquarters Northern District, Normandy Base Section, which had immediate command jurisdiction. Obstacles which had previously caused delay were eliminated to the end that units were fully equipped in the shortest practicable time. Complete basic loads of ammunition were issued to the units prior to their departure so that upon arrival in the combat area they were ready to enter into action.

In order to facilitate the activities of the detachment, direct telephone line, radio net, teletype and motor and plane courier service were established between the Headquarters Fifteenth Army and the headquarters of the detachment.

The operations of the Field Force Port Detachment very materially reduced the time required to process units through the staging area and their movement on to their receiving army destination. During the period that this detachment was employed on this mission, a total of 544 units, comprising approximately 300,000 personnel were processed and moved to the combat zone.

On 7 May 1945, since all units due from the Zone of Interior, with few minor exceptions, had arrived at the Northern ports, the Field Force Port Detachment was inactivated. A report covering the Detachment's activities was submitted to Twelfth Army Group.

*Units departing Northern District from 21 Jan thru 30 April 1945*

TYPE	NO. OF UNITS	NO. OF PERSONNEL
Corps, Hq & Hq Co	1	403
Divisions	11	143728
TD	9	5612
Tk	6	4320
AAA	17	13292
Cav	10	5990
Cml	12	5370
Engr	121	35105
FA	68	36157
Inf Regts	2	6414
Med	84	13394
MP	2	1132
Ord	79	12940
QM	74	11642
Sig	25	8229
MRU	2	96
APU	1	18
TOTALS	524	303842

*Fifteenth Army Planning*

*A. The SHAEF Reserve*

Concurrent with its mission of receiving, training and equipping organizations newly arrived from the United States and the United Kingdom, Fifteenth Army had an additional responsibility, direct to SHAEF, in regard to units of the Twelfth Army Group earmarked for SHAEF reserve. All major units in the SHAEF Reserve were placed under the operational control of Fifteenth Army. In January, this reserve was composed of the 28th and 76th Infantry Divisions. In February, the 10th Armored Division was added to this list. The 9th Armored, the 8th Armored and the 76th Infantry Divisions were in mobile reserve. Later, all units in SHAEF Reserve were relieved from operational control of the Fifteenth Army.

*B. The Meuse River Survey*

The army had an additional mission of surveying the line of the Meuse River southward from Liege inclusive with a view to assuming responsibility for the defense of this line. This mission included an inspection of the area to see that all road blocks, mines and demolition charges employed in the defense of the Meuse River Line southward from Namur, exclusive, had been removed. The army assigned this task to the XXII Corps.

*C. The Bremen-Bremerhaven Enclave*

The Twelfth Army Group, in the second draft of the Operations Plan, *Operation 'Eclipse,'* gave the Fifteenth Army the responsibility for preparing the necessary detailed plans for the occupation of the Bremen-Bremerhaven Enclave in coordination with Twenty-One Army Group, First Canadian Army, Second British Army, the Communications Zone, the Navy and the Air Force. A static staff, established by ETOUSA as a permanent staff, was attached to Headquarters Fifteenth Army and aided in the preparation of Plans. Planning was well advanced when the task was transferred to Ninth Army.

### ***D. The Berlin District***

Early in February 1945, the Fifteenth Army became responsible for the preparation of another plan — that of the Berlin District. The Commanding General, Fifteenth Army was announced as Berlin District Commander (designate). A nucleus staff was formed from personnel of the Fifteenth Army and on 7 February, it was directed to begin the work as initially outlined in a letter from SHAEF, dated 31 January 1945, subject: "Planning Directive for the Organization of Berlin District Headquarters."

The Berlin District Headquarters was an integrated United States-British staff initially composed of 75 officers, 5 warrant officers, and 133 enlisted men. Brigadier General Paul L. Ransom, U. S. Army, was designated Chief of Staff. Prior to the time the staff became operational, the Commanding General, Fifteenth Army, was relieved as Berlin District Commander (designate).

On 5 May 1945, the Berlin District Plan was complete. It covered in detail plans for the movement into Berlin, the internal security, intelligence, information services, censorship, public relations, maintenance of supply, military government, disarmament and disbandment, command posts and communications.

### **NEW COMMAND POST**

In the early part of February, army headquarters was moved to Dinant, the proposed site of Fifteenth Army's initial Continental CP. Headquarters was split into forward and rear echelons. The former occupied the Chateau d'Ardennes, a few miles outside of Dinant, Belgium, while the latter was located in Dinant and Anseremme along the Meuse River. The Forward Echelon opened on 16 February; the Rear Echelon on 18 February.

### ***Problems of Supply***

The initial army mission charged Fifteenth Army with the responsibility for the rehabilitation and re-equipping of combat forces withdrawn from action and supervising the processing and equipping of units arriving at Northern ports which were scheduled for assignment to US elements of the 21st, 12th and 6th Army Groups. During this period, Fifteenth Army was initially located in Oise Intermediate Section of Communications Zone and had no supply or service installations in operation. With respect to the re-equipping of combat units, this necessitated a procedure whereby Fifteenth Army processed and edited requisitions being drawn on a retail basis from Communications Zone depots.

On the 11th of March 1945, Twelfth Army Group authorized the establishment of a Fifteenth Army Service Area, and service troops were placed under the operational control of the army. *Initial*  
*Service Area* Prior to the receipt of this authorization the army had no area responsibility, and a service area was established in Northern France and Southern Belgium within the confines of Oise Intermediate Section where service installations were established and operated.

Charts portraying the logistical data for the period covered by the entire history are appended as APPENDIX 7.



Chateau d'Ardennes

## CHAPTER III

## OPERATIONS ON TWO FRONTS

On 28 March 1945, the Fifteenth United States Army was assigned its most important mission since its arrival on the continent. This mission called for operations on two fronts; France and Germany.

### *The French Front*

#### *The Lorient-St Nazaire Pockets*

On 31 March 1945, the army assumed command of the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector and responsibility for containing the enemy forces continuing to resist in Lorient and St Nazaire, France.

Lorient and St. Nazaire were pockets containing enemy forces which remained after the Americans swept over France to the German border. The enemy organized strong perimeter defenses around these cities and prepared themselves for a long siege.

The Lorient pocket comprised an area of approximately 101 square miles, exclusive of the island of Groix, Bells Isle and Quiberon Peninsula. The pocket contained an estimated 22,000 enemy troops.

*St Nazaire Pocket* The St Nazaire pocket embraced an area of approximately 683 square miles and was defended by navy and army personnel of all arms numbering 27,000 men.

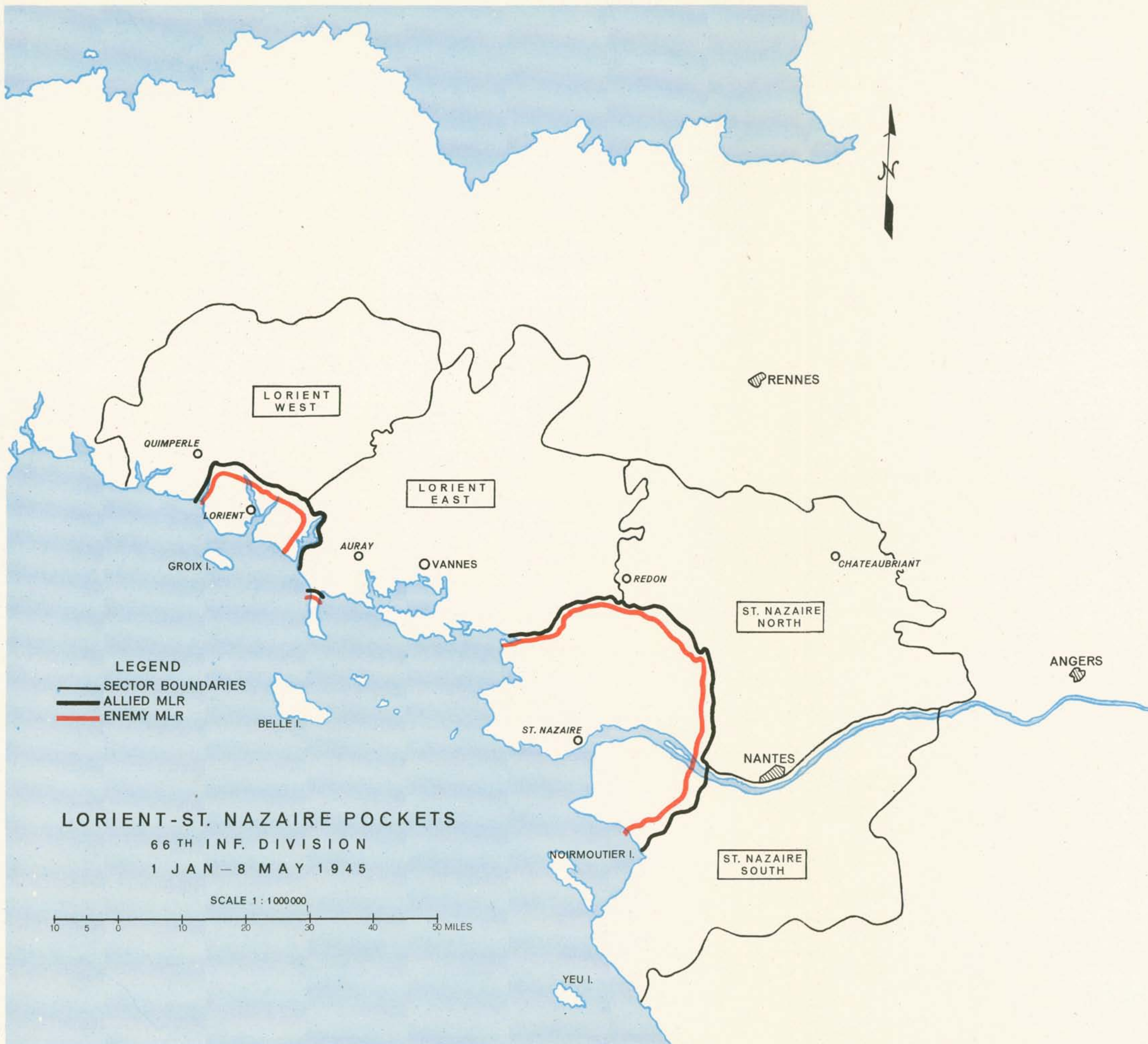
Approximately 56,179 troops were available to the Fifteenth United States Army for the consummation of his mission. These troops comprised the 66th Infantry Division, reinforced, and all French forces then in the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector.

Since these forces in Western France were hundreds of miles from any Fifteenth Army installations, service support was provided direct by Communications Zone with the attachment of service units to the division. Ammunition required was furnished from Fifteenth Army allocations and physically drawn from Communications Zone depots in Western France.

The 66th Infantry Division, commanded by Major General H. F. Kramer, was, at the time of the assumption by Fifteenth United States Army of responsibility for the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector, engaged in containing the enemy forces in the Lorient-St. Nazaire pockets. Reinforced by various units attached to or placed in support of the division, the 66th Infantry Division totalled approximately 17,582 officers and men.

French forces assigned to the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector at this time were part of the French Forces of the West (FFO), commanded by Lieutenant General Edgard De Larminat, and were then under the command of Brigadier General Rene Marchand. These forces totaled some 38,597 officers and enlisted men, the major units being the 19th and 25th French Infantry Divisions.

The 66th Infantry Division was directed to continue the mission of containing enemy forces in the Lorient-St. Nazaire pockets, and the Division Commander was given operational control of all French forces in the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector, subject only to the following limitations:  
(1) General Kramer was to keep General Marchand









# LORIENT-ST. NAZAIRE POCKETS

LORIENT EAST  
66TH INF. DIVISION  
1 JAN - 8 MAY

SCALE 1:250,000

10 5 0 10 MILES

## LEGEND

U. S.  
FRENCH

LORIENT WEST  
SECTOR  
LORIENT EAST

CENTER  
SUBSECTOR  
EAST

2 71  
O PLUVIGNER

3 10 RAD  
SUB  
SECTOR  
COL  
LANGUILLAIRE  
O LANDEVANT

2 10 41  
O LOCOAL-MENDON

IC E 266  
O AURAY

LORIENT EAST  
BRIG. GEN.  
BORGNIS DES BORDES  
VANNES

O BADEN

3 41  
O SARZEAU

O PENVIN

SOUTH  
SUBSECTOR  
VILAINE

O AMBON

2 4RFM  
O MUZILLAC

ALLIED MLR

ENEMY MLR

O QUESTEMBART

15 RANGER  
FFI  
O CADEN

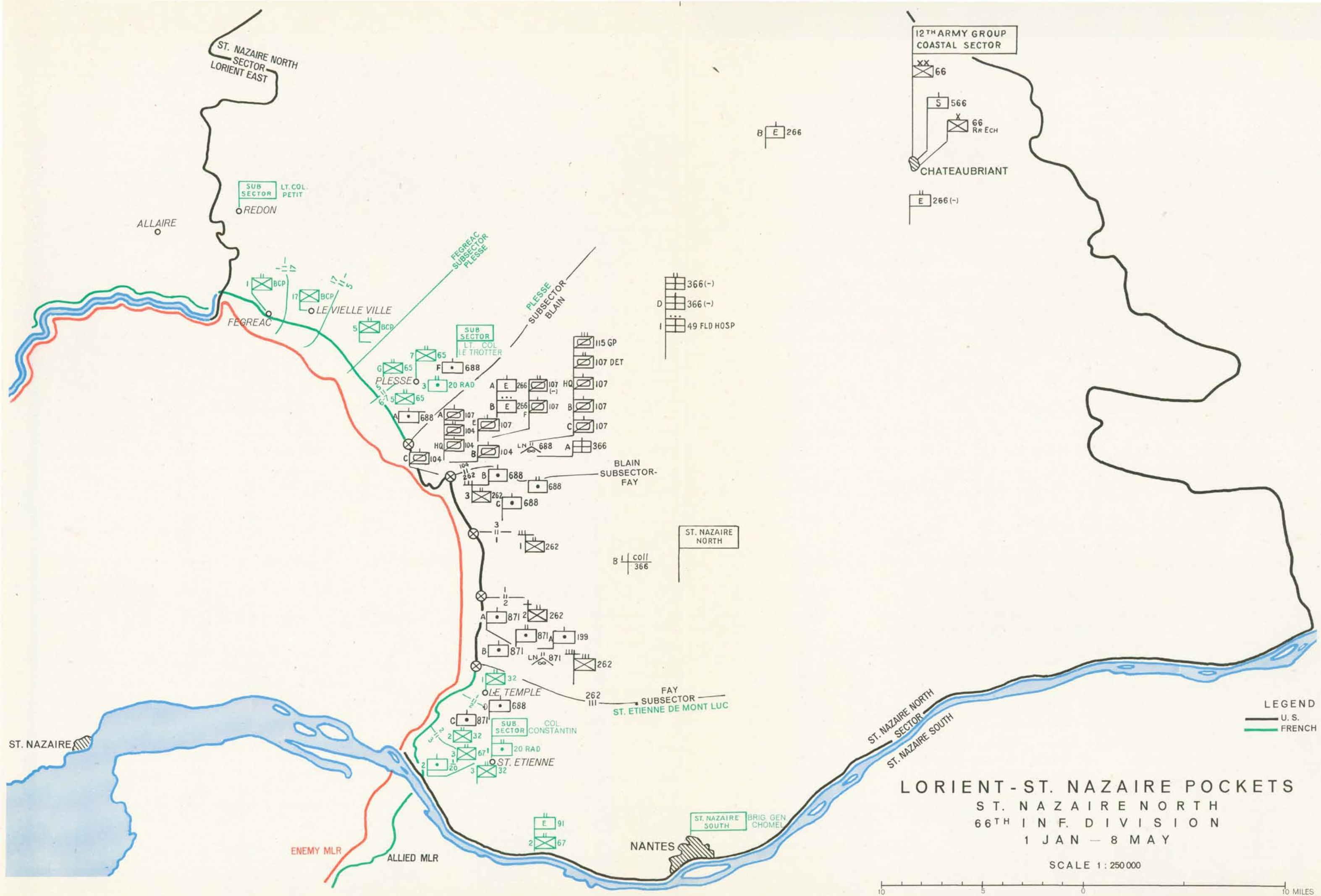
4 RANGER  
FFI  
O PEAULE

1 4RFM  
O ALLAIRE

263 (-)  
1 263  
2 263

LORIENT EAST  
SECTOR  
ST. NAZAIRE NORTH









informed of his intentions regarding the use of French forces; (2) General Marchand was given authority to make recommendations relative to the use of French forces within this sector; and (3) General De Larminat retained the responsibility of the organization of French units and the distribution of arms and equipment.

*Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector* The Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector included the Department of Moriban, a portion of the Department of Ile et Vilaine, south of the railway Maine to Rouge, Department of Loire Inferieure, Canton of Champtoceau, Canton of Montaign, Canton of Roche Seviere, Canton of Lege, Canton of Challons, and the Canton St. Jean de Monts.

*Division of Sectors* The Coastal Sector was divided into four areas: The Lorient West Sector, the Lorient East Sector, the St. Nazaire North Sector and the St. Nazaire South Sector. Brigadier General Francis W. Rollins, Commanding General of the 66th Infantry Division Artillery, was appointed Commanding General of the Lorient West Sector. Brigadier General George J. Forster, Assistant Division Commander, assumed control of the St. Nazaire North Sector. Brigadier General Raymond Chomel (French) was appointed Commanding General of the St. Nazaire South Sector. Brigadier General Brognis Desbordes (French) commanded the Lorient East Sector.

All the French within the Lorient West Sector and the St. Nazaire North Sector were placed under the operational control of the American sector commanders. The other two sectors, under French officers, contained only French troops.

*Coastal Sector Reserve* The Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector Reserve was formed and given the mission of preventing enemy offensive ground action on the North Brittany coast or from the St. Nazaire or Lorient pockets.

*Defensive Operations* Since the mission of the 66th Infantry Division was one of containment, most of the operations conducted by its troops were defensive in nature. Infantry units in the line organized strong points which were well dug in at critical points. Because of the numerous hedges, characteristic of this portion of France, fields of fire and observation were definitely restricted. Outposts and listening posts were established at intervals along the line to prevent enemy infiltration. The division's troops occupied a wide frontage, averaging three miles per battalion, and were supported by mobile reserves.

*Artillery* It was necessary for the artillery to be prepared at all times to move to alternate positions in order to strengthen the defenses in any part of the front. Such moves were made frequently by batteries and roving guns.

Inasmuch as the division's mission was to contain the enemy forces in the St. Nazaire and Lorient pockets, activity was generally restricted to the operation of combat patrols and harassing artillery fires.



**Dugout utilized by members of the 66th Infantry Division in St. Nazaire-Lorient Pockets, France.**



**Typical hedgerow utilized by members of the 66th Division for protection against enemy observation and fire.**



**Three miles behind the front lines at Blain, France, near St. Nazaire. These huts were occupied by members of the 266th Engineer Battalion 66th Infantry Division.**





**Belligerent representatives departing from les Sables, France, 8 May 1945. Left to right: Lt. Bernstein (German interpreter), Major Engelken, C/S St. Nazaire Pocket, Colonel Keating, C/S 66th Division, Major Parr, Asst G-2, 66th Division, and Captain Mueller (German).**



**Allied representatives awaiting the arrival of General Farhmbacker, German Commanding General, Lorient Pocket, at Caudan, France, 10 May 1945.**



During the period of this containing action, several truce agreements were entered into between the Commanding General of the *Civilian* 66th Infantry Division and the Germans for the purpose of *Evacuation* allowing the evacuation of French civilians from the German controlled area. Up to 13 April 1945, 9,763 French persons had been evacuated from the St. Nazaire pocket and 774 from the Lorient pocket.

Later in April, in accordance with directives received from SHAEF and Twelfth Army Group, General Kramer was directed to complete arrangements with General De Larminat, Commander of the French Forces of the West, for the earliest practicable relief of the 66th Infantry Division by French troops. Arrangements so effected were not completed because of the intervening capitulation of the enemy on 7 and 8 May 1945. Later, after surrender of the German forces in St. Nazaire and Lorient had been effected the relief of all United States forces in this area was accomplished by the French on 25 May 1945.

On 7 May 1945, in the vicinity of Etel, France, a truce was arranged between opposing forces for the purpose of discussing surrender of the German forces contained in the Lorient pocket. Terms were agreed upon and unconditional surrender signed on behalf of the German High Command of the Lorient Pocket at 2000. Three days later a ceremony was held in a large field on the outskirts of Caudan, France, during which the German commander of the Lorient Pocket formally surrendered his forces to General Kramer. At the conclusion of the ceremony General Fahrmbacher and his staff were returned to Lorient, processed and placed in a prisoner of war enclosure.

The surrender of the St. Nazaire Pocket was conducted in a similar manner. At 1103, 8 May 1945, a meeting between the Americans and the Germans was held for the purpose of accepting the *Surrender of the* German surrender. However, since the German representative was not possessed of authority to agree to an unconditional surrender of the German forces, the *St. Nazaire Pocket* representative, now authorized to execute an unconditional surrender, signed meeting was adjourned until 1700 the same day at which time the German the document of surrender.

The formal surrender of the St. Nazaire Pocket took place at 1000, 11 May 1945 on the outskirts of Bouvron, France, following which the German commanders were moved to prisoner of war enclosures.

### *The German Front*

In addition to the St. Nazaire-Lorient mission, the Fifteenth US Army was assigned a further mission in Western Germany. This mission required that the Fifteenth US Army, by 1 April 1945, assume the defense of the west bank of the Rhine River from Bonn to Neuss, and that, by 5 April 1945, its defensive sector on the west bank of the Rhine be extended to include Homberg. Further, the Fifteenth US Army was to be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern the Rheinprovinz, Saarland, Pfalz, and that portion of Hessen west of the Rhine River as the eastward advance of the Allied armies uncovered these areas.

The assignment to the army of a sector opposing the enemy necessitated the movement of the Army Service Area into Eastern Belgium and Western Germany. The area assigned the army had previously been occupied in part by the Ninth and First US Armies. In order to expedite occupation of the area and provision of adequate service to the troops in contact with the enemy, Fifteenth Army service units moved into installations formerly under the control of both the Ninth and First US Armies. Since it was anticipated that the army's area would be expanded to the south in the near future, Fifteenth Army's installations were primarily established in the southern portion of the area which previously had been under the control of the First Army. To expedite the establishment of stocks, the First and Ninth Armies turned over to the Fifteenth Army certain stocks in place. However, these stocks were insufficient to provide adequate support. The greatest difficulty encountered during this period from a service standpoint was that of inadequate transportation. All rail lines had the primary mission of supporting the First, Ninth, and Third US Armies which resulted in very little tonnage allocations to Fifteenth Army for establishment of depot stocks by rail.

To accomplish this mission the XXII Corps was assigned responsibility for defending the west bank of the Rhine River and for establishing security and military government within this sector. The XXII Corps was further directed to occupy, organize, and govern Regierungsbezirke Düsseldorf, Aachen and Köln in the Rheinprovinz zone as soon as these areas were turned over to the Fifteenth US Army by the First and Ninth Armies.

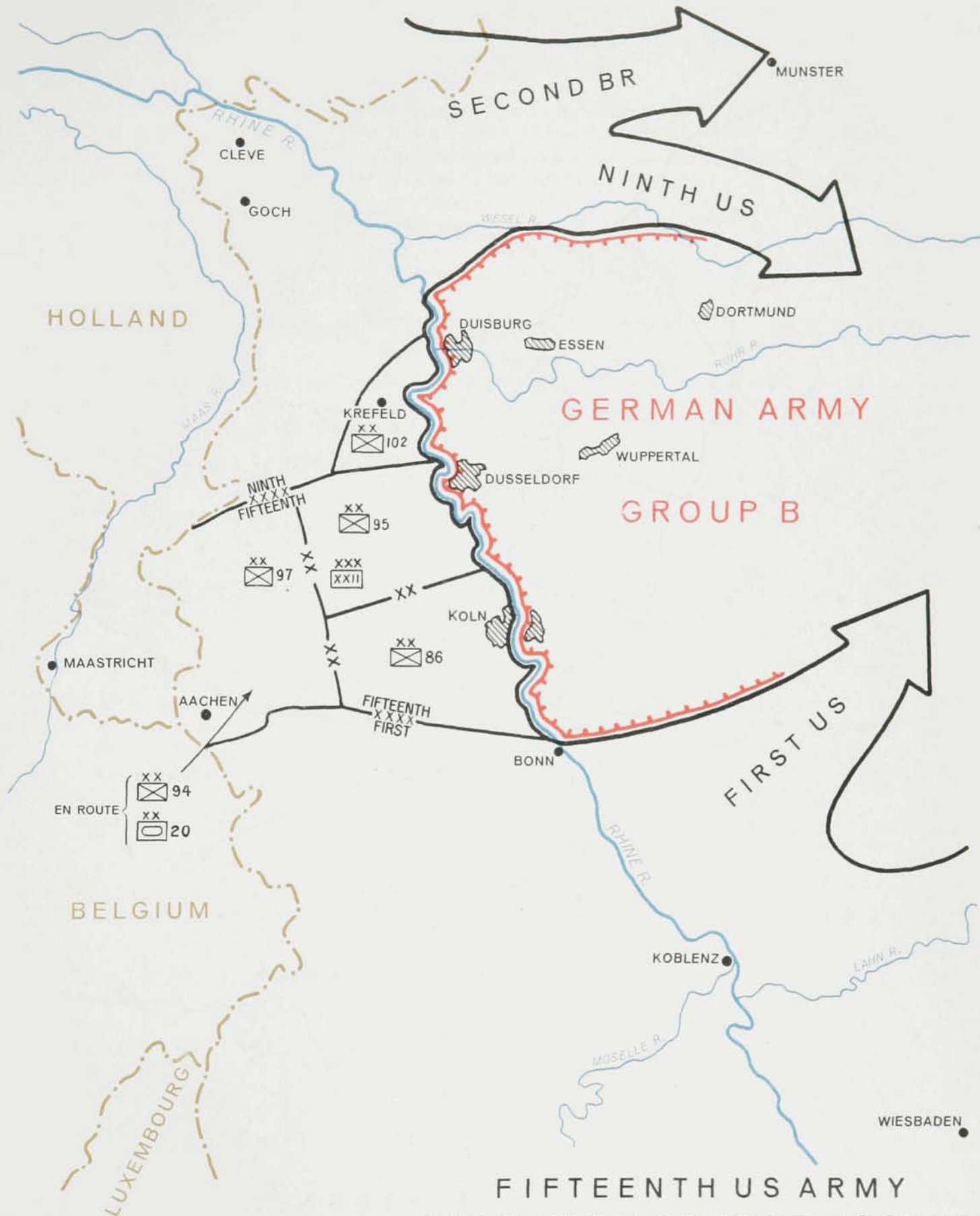
A similar occupation mission was assigned to the XXIII Corps. This corps was directed to be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern Regierungsbezirke Trier and Koblenz in the Rheinprovinz and also Saarland, Pfalz, and that portion of Hessen west of the Rhine River as the control of these areas passed to the Fifteenth Army from the First, Third, and Seventh Armies.

In connection with the occupation and security of these areas, the army directed that the corps be governed by the policies and procedures set forth in SHAEF documents "Military Government Handbook", "Unit Commanders Handbook - Germany", and "Handbook for Military Government in Germany".

#### *Commitment of XXII Corps*

When XXII Corps was assigned its mission of the defense of the west bank of the Rhine and the occupation of a portion of the Rheinprovinz, the following military situation existed in Western Germany. The Allied Armies had crossed the Rhine and proceeded east, bypassing the so-called Ruhr pocket. Fifteenth Army was directed to take over security mission in rear of the advancing armies. The western perimeter of the surrounded area bordering on the Rhine River required a holding force sufficiently strong to pin down and prevent any possible offensive action to the west by the trapped and desperate German forces.

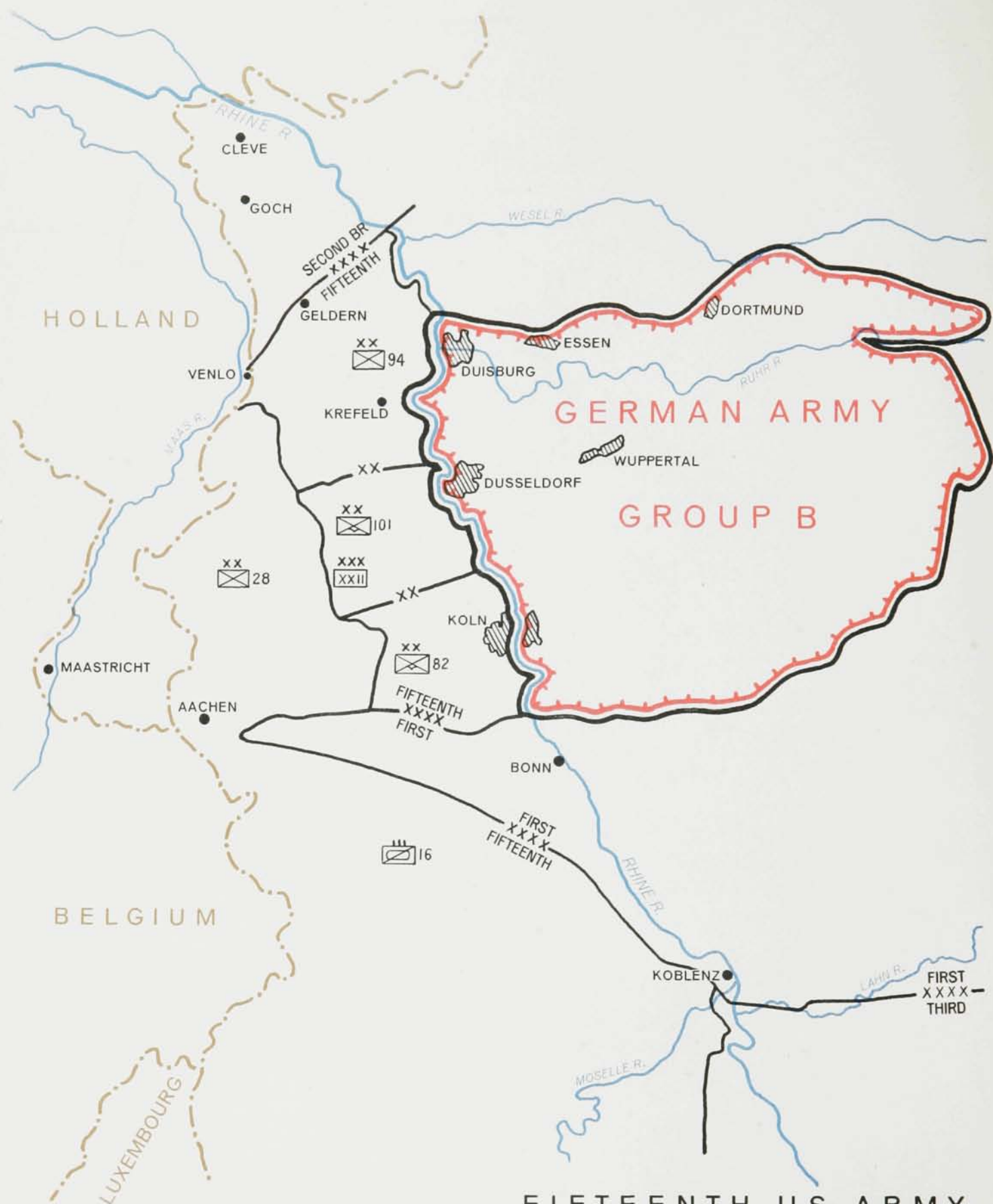
The mission assigned to the corps, which became operational 30 March 1945, provided for the defense of the west bank of the Rhine within its sector by maintaining pressure on the enemy by fire and patrols, and the organization and government of the areas occupied.



FIFTEENTH US ARMY  
FORMATION OF RUHR POCKET  
30 MARCH 1945

SCALE 1 : 1 000 000





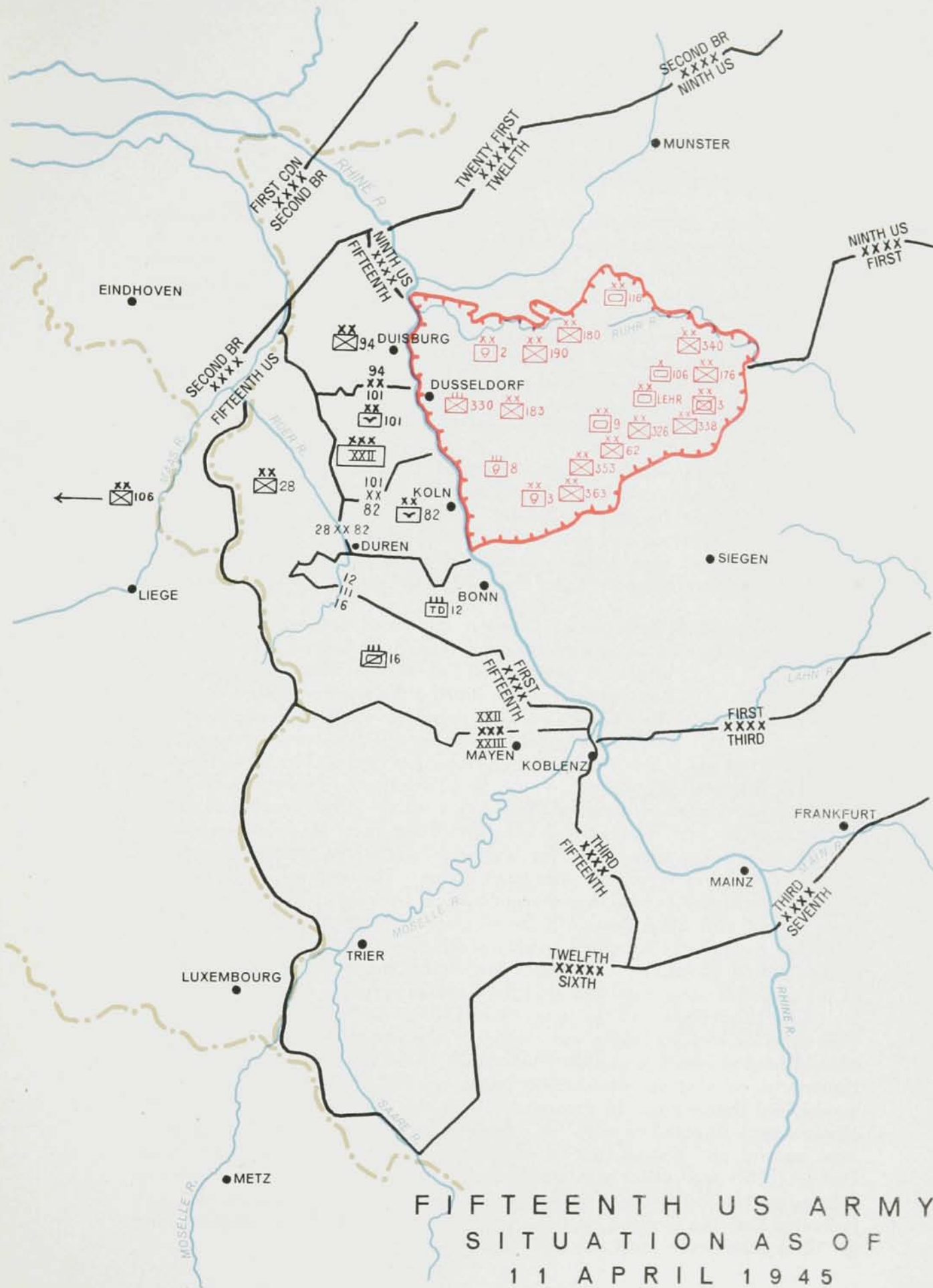
FIFTEENTH US ARMY  
RUHR POCKET  
10 APRIL 1945





SCALE 1 : 1 000 000





SCALE 1 : 1 500 000

0 5 10 15 20 25 50 75 100 MILES

5TH I. & HSV. Z. J.



Pursuant to conferences between the army commanders and members of the staffs of this army and the First Army, and later the Ninth Army, the areas prescribed for turn-over passed to control of the Fifteenth Army in four phases, during the period 30 March to 10 April.

XXII Corps assumed the defense of the west bank of the Rhine in its sector, taking over operational control of the 102nd Infantry Division, the 95th Infantry Division (both Ninth Army) and the 86th Infantry Division (First Army) in place. The army's immediate concern was the replacement of these divisions by its own units. This was accomplished on the 4th of April when the divisions originally in the line were relieved by the 94th Infantry Division, the 101st Airborne Division and the 82nd Airborne Division. By 15 April 1945, the XXII Corps had assumed control of the entire Regierungsbezirk of Aachen, parts of Regierungsbezirke Dusseldorf, Köln, and a small portion of Regierungsbezirk Koblenz west of the Rhine.

The constant pressure maintained against the Ruhr Pocket by the First and Ninth US Armies was daily increasing; the offensive threat against the XXII Corps sector became negligible. Combat activities were limited to artillery firing missions and patrols of a company or less. Accordingly, the mission of defense soon became incidental to the mission of occupying, organizing and governing the areas assigned to the corps.

The mission of occupation imposed numerous responsibilities of an unorthodox nature on an army headquarters, such as insuring the supply of displaced persons (DP's) and civilian internees. The basic policy under which DP's were supplied was that the German civilian populace would provide food and essential commodities to these DP's-slaves Germany had gathered from the other countries of Europe for labor. The local German official or Burgomeister was called upon to deliver the food necessary for these persons from civilian or captured Wehrmacht stocks. When sources available to the Burgomeister were such that he could not meet these commitments, the Burgomeister, acting for the German community, requisitioned the necessary supplies from the American Army. The cost of both US and captured Wehrmacht stocks was charged against Germany. These requisitions were edited and filled from US stocks imported for the purpose. These imported food stocks consisted largely of biscuits, flour, canned meat, fish, pulses, coffee, chocolate, milk, salts, and fats. Shortly after the beginning of the period it became evident that the German civilians would be unable to feed both themselves and the many thousands of DP's in the various areas. This shortage of food stocks was caused by the processes of war preventing normal food production and the inadequacy of the heavily damaged German transportation system. It was the policy of the army that the Germans would feed themselves. In accordance with this policy, the German public officials were directed to establish a food office for coordinating the production, control and distribution of indigenous stocks in the Fifteenth Army District. This food office was established at Bonn, Germany, and employed approximately 250 German civilians. At the close of the period all evidence indicated that the German civilians would be able to provide adequate food for their subsistence until the 1945 harvest.

The normal problems of providing food to an army were magnified by the use of numerous menus or ration scales. Separate menus and rations were prescribed for static labor, mobile labor, POWs, RAMPS (Recovered Allied Military Personnel), Allied Organizations, and liberated manpower units in addition to the normal army rations.

### *Military Government Problems*

Military Government detachments specifically earmarked for employment within the army area were disposed to effect administration of the area on the basis of existing political subdivisions within that portion of the German Reich occupied by the army. Most of the detachments moved into their assigned political subdivisions with the advancing Allied troops. These detachments remained in their respective Kreis and passed to the control of Fifteenth US Army upon the assumption of area control by the army.

One of the first missions confronting the Military Government detachments was to organize and establish German civil administration. Pursuant to orders received from higher headquarters, Fifteenth US Army prohibited the appointment of any former member of the Nazi party to a civil post. Therefore, it became necessary to screen the local population in order to locate men qualified to serve as Burgomeisters and Councilmen within the various Gemeinden and Kreise. As an example of the problem confronting the Military Government detachments, reference is made to the Landkreis Euskirchen. Here under the former German government 141 Burgomeisters were needed properly to administer civilian affairs. By 16 April, the detachment in this Landkreis was able to procure only 60 qualified civilians to serve as Burgomeisters.

A second problem confronting the Military Government detachments was the resumption of agricultural activities within the army district. Much of the land was suitable for farming, but due to the lack of manpower, machinery and transportation, it became apparent that the agricultural potential of the area could not be fully exploited. Through the efforts of the occupying forces, German prisoners-of-war in the farmer class were among the first to return to their homes. Seeds were provided in great quantities and Allied transportation was furnished to aid in the distribution of farm products.

In order to provide a more closely knit system for the control of the army area, and to avoid overlapping of functions between the occupying forces and the Military Government detachments, Fifteenth Army centralized all authority (including governmental functions) under the respective Corps Area Commanders. Occupying troops were disposed in the army district to coincide with political subdivisions insofar as practicable.

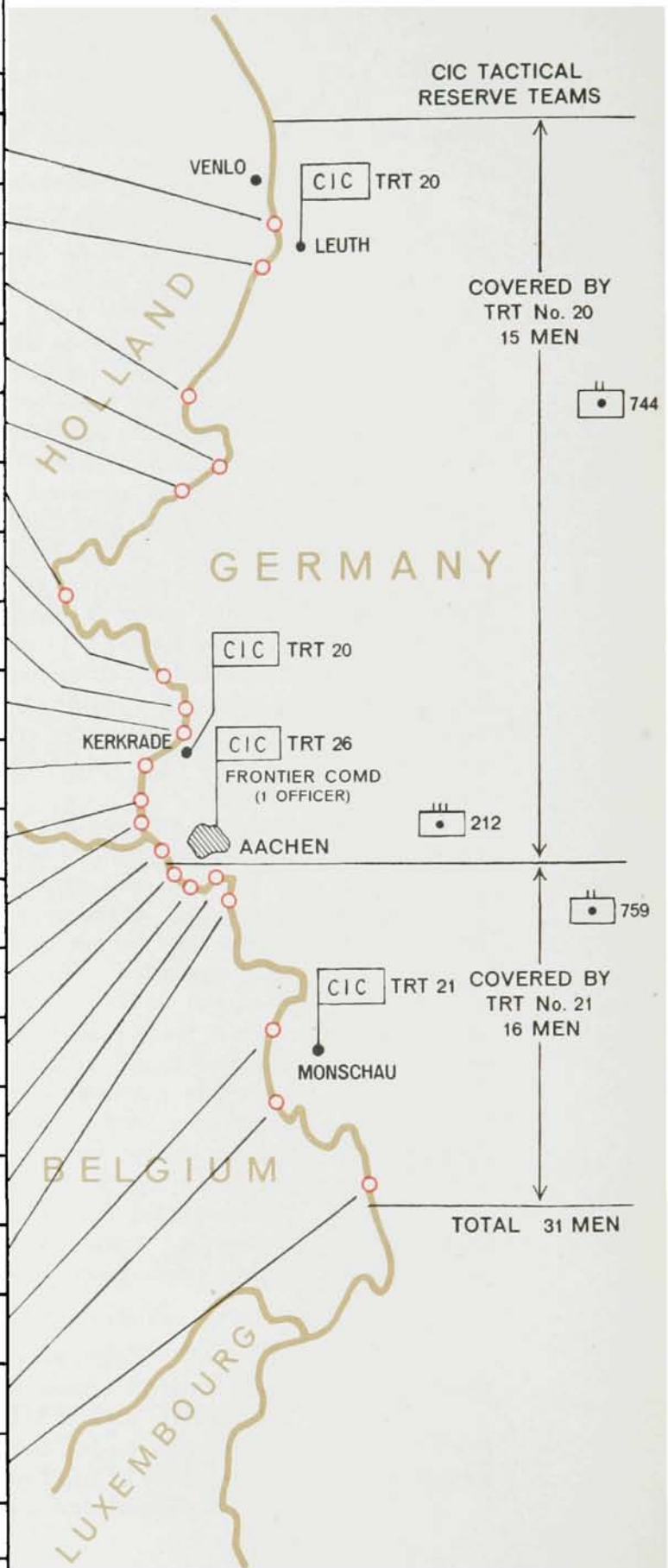
### *Prohibited Frontier Zone*

A Prohibited Frontier Zone, extending one to five kilometers east, was established along the entire German border within the army area. In both the XXII and XXIII Corps, Frontier Commands were established under corps direction to control and maintain the security of the Frontier Zone. Civilians within this zone were screened and some were evacuated. In order fully to



# FRONTIER CONTROL XXII CORPS

FRONTIER CHECK POINTS			
Name of Road or Rail-road	Composition of Detachments		
	Bel.	Dutch	US
Wachtendonk-Venlo Rd.		8	8
Kaldenkirchen-Venlo Rd.		8	8
M.-Gladbach-Roermond Rd.		8	8
Rheydt-Roermond RR.		8	8
Erkelenz-Roermond Rd.		8	8
Geilenkirchen-Sittard Rd.		8	8
Geilenkirchen-Heerlen Rd.		8	8
Geilenkirchen-Heerlen RR.		8	8
Herzogenrath-Kerkrade Rd.		8	8
Aachen-Heerlen Rd.		8	8
Aachen-Antwerp RR.		8	8
Aachen-Maastricht Rd.		8	8
Aachen-Brussels RR.	4		2
Aachen-Liege Rd.	2		2
Aachen-Liege RR.	2		2
Aachen-Eupen Rd.	2		2
Stolberg-Eupen RR.	5		5
Monschau-Eupen Rd.	5		5
Monschau-St. Vith Rd.	5		5
Stadtkyll-St. Vith Rd.	20		19
	45	96	138



SCALE 1 : 750 000

0 10 20 30 MILES



Security guards of the 774th Field Artillery Battalion check driver of U. S. vehicle at Frontier Control Station on the Aachen-Vaals highway at the border line between Holland and Germany. 4 May 1945.

exploit agricultural production, farmers and those engaged in farm supporting trades were permitted to remain in the zone. Various crossing points were designated in order that passage of persons across the frontier might be controlled and restricted as required.

### *Additional Missions*

On 9 April 1945, Headquarters Fifteenth Army issued Letter of Instructions Number Seventeen. This letter outlined additional missions of the army and the plan for executing these missions. In addition to continuing the then current mission of defending the Rhine River line and occupying portions of the Rheinprovinz already under army control, the army planned and made preparations to occupy, organize, and to govern all of the Rheinprovinz (on both sides of the Rhine River) within the zones of the Twelfth and Sixth Army Groups.

To accomplish these additional missions, Letter of Instructions Number Seventeen directed the XXII Corps to continue its then current mission, and be prepared to occupy the remaining area of the Regierungsbezirke Köln and Düsseldorf; the XXIII Corps was directed to occupy the portion of the Twelfth Army Group zone in the Rheinprovinz, Saarland, Pfalz and Hessen west of the Rhine River, and be prepared to occupy the Sixth Army Group zone within these political subdivisions. On 10 April, XXIII Corps, operating from its CP a Oberstein, Germany, assumed control of the area assigned to it, and by 20 April, completed occupation of the Twelfth Army Group zone within the area assigned to Fifteenth Army.

The army directed that the corps areas be sub-divided into "Sub-Areas" and "Sectors", each of these conforming to former German political boundaries insofar as practicable.

Liberated manpower units under army control consisting of French, Belgium and Dutch battalions were employed as security guards on bridges, roads, railroads, tunnels and civilian utilities.

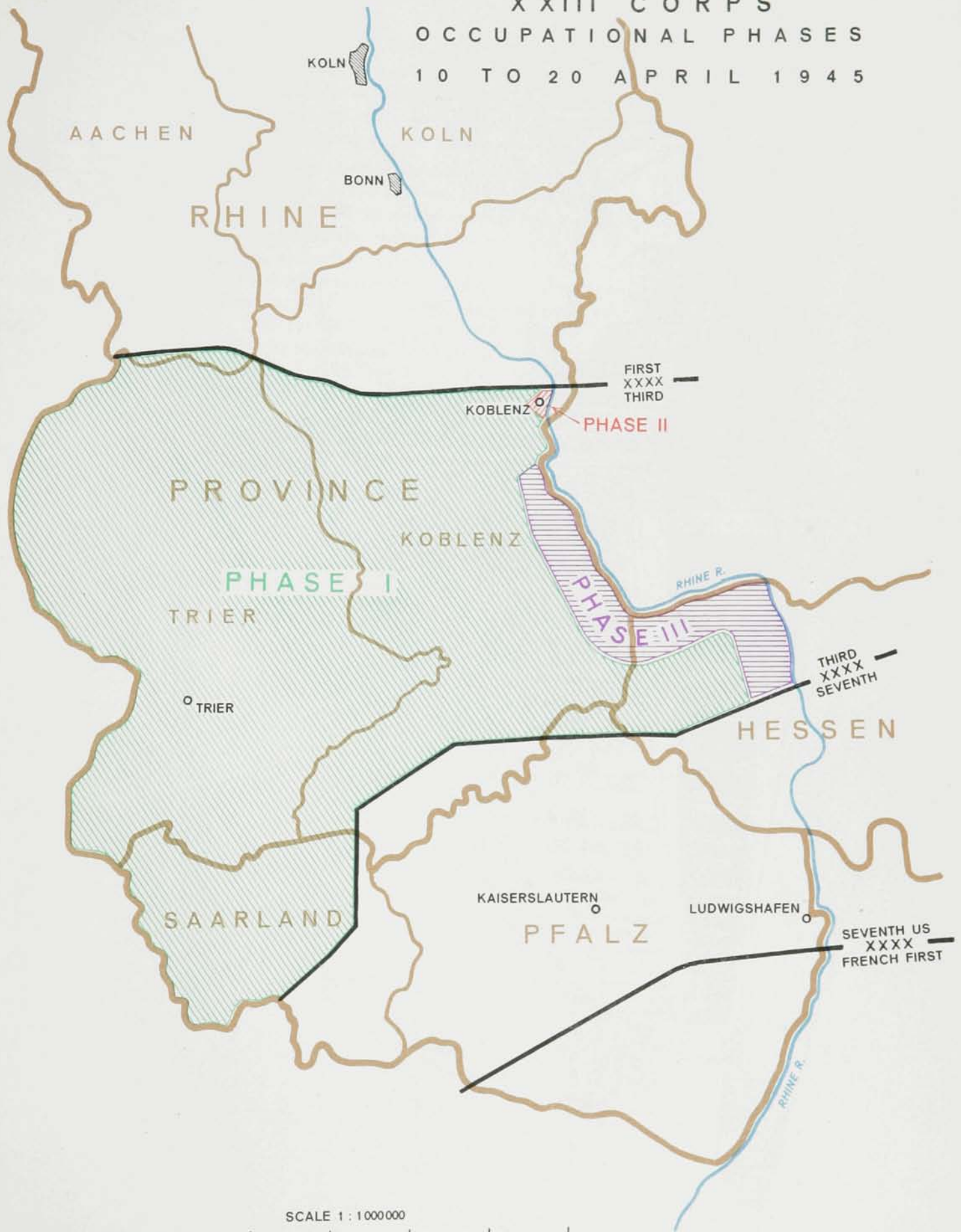
### *Command Post in Germany*

The army CP opened at Bad Neuenahr, Germany, at 161800 April 1945. Upon movement into Germany the Theatre non-fraternization policy became operative for personnel of the headquarters.

### *Re-allocation of Staff Functions*

During the third week of April 1945, continued pressure by Allied Armies from the north, south and east resulted in the complete desintegration of all organized resistance by German forces trapped in the so-called Ruhr pocket. Thus relieved of any threat of German offensive action to the west, and the requirement for maintaining defensive positions along the Rhine River, the Fifteenth US Army's principal concern became that of the occupation and government of those areas assigned to it. Because of the emphasis now placed upon duties of an occupational nature, it became necessary either to expand the G-5 Section to meet the increased responsibilities of military government and civil affairs, or to allocate responsibilities for some of these functions among other general and special staff sections. Lieutenant General Gerow decided upon the latter and, by memorandum effective 21 April 1945, allocated to other staff sections responsibilities in connection with military government ordinarily assumed by the G-5 Section.

FIFTEENTH US ARMY  
XXIII CORPS  
OCCUPATIONAL PHASES  
10 TO 20 APRIL 1945



SCALE 1 : 1 000 000  
10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 MILES





FIFTEENTH ARMY HEADQUARTERS  
BAD NEUENAH, GERMANY

Further, in order that the various staff sections, to which normal G-5 responsibilities had been allocated, might more easily assimilate these new responsibilities, certain of the specialist officers assigned to the G-5 Section were placed on special duty with other general and special staff sections responsible for functions within their individual specialties.

Normal G-5 functions assigned to other general and special staff sections, included the following: G-2 was made responsible for public safety and civil censorship. G-3 assumed the added responsibility of civil defense and security. To G-4 were allocated the further functions of controlling industrial production and labor, and of maintaining supplies necessary for military government. The Judge Advocate Section became responsible for the preparation and promulgation of proclamations, laws and ordinances affecting the civilian population. The Engineer Section was directed to supervise matters relative to monuments, fine arts and archives. The Surgeon Section was assigned matters relative to public health and medical supplies required by military government agencies. The Quartermaster Section was responsible for Quartermaster supplies required by military government, and particularly the procurement and distribution of rations for displaced persons.

The responsibilities allocated by this memorandum to the various staff sections are set forth in the attached chart. The G-5 Section, under this memorandum, retained the responsibility for the coordination and supervision of functions not assigned other general and special staff sections, and responsibility of cooperating with the other staff sections in matters pertaining to their new responsibilities.

# MILITARY GOVERNMENT AND CIVIL AFFAIRS RESPONSIBILITIES

<u>G - 1</u> Religious Affairs Welfare Red Cross	<u>G - 2</u> Public Safety Intelligence Civil Censorship	<u>G - 3</u> Security Civil Defense Troop Movement Personnel Training Organization of Special Units	<u>G - 4</u> Mil Govt Supplies Transportation Util & Communications Except Signal Supply Accounting Labor Industrial Production	<u>G - 5</u> Coordination & Supervision of Functions Not Assigned Other General Staff Sections Operating Functions Not Assigned Special Staff Sections
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<u>AG</u> Personnel Records	<u>AA</u>	<u>ARTY</u>	<u>CHAP</u> Religious Affairs	<u>FIN 0</u> Fiscal	<u>IG</u> Invest- igations	<u>JA</u> Proclam- ations Laws Ordinances Legal	<u>CWS</u>	<u>ENGR</u> Fire Prevention Monuments Transportation (Rail & Water) Utilities Communications, Except Signal Mil Govt Supplies (Engr) Labor	<u>ARMD</u>	<u>ORD</u> Mil Govt Supplies (Ord)	<u>PM</u> Public Safety Prisons	<u>SIG</u> Signal Com- munications Mil Govt Supplies (Sig)	<u>SURG</u> Public Health Mil Govt Supplies (Med)	<u>QM</u> Mil Govt Supplies (QM) Transportation Motor
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The Mil Govt & Civil Affairs responsibilities assigned staff sections in this chart are in addition  
to the functions prescribed in FM 101-5.

## CHAPTER IV



## EXPANSION OF OCCUPATION

Based on instructions from Twelfth Army Group directing Fifteenth Army to take over from First and Ninth Armies the portion of the Rhein-provinz east of the Rhine River and from Sixth Army Group the remaining portions of Pfalz, Saarland and Hessen west of the Rhine, conferences were held with the armies and army group concerned. These conferences resulted in agreements covering the specific details pertinent to the take-over of the area.

To accomplish the terms agreed upon, Fifteenth Army, on 23 April 1945, published Letter of Instructions Number Eighteen. XXII Corps was ordered to take over the portions of Regierungsbezirke Köln and Dusseldorf East of the Rhine River by 25 April and to assume control of the 17th Airborne Division concurrently with the take-over of the area. XXIII Corps was required to take over the portion of Regierungsbezirk Koblenz east of the Rhine by 25 April and the remainder of Saarland, Hessen west of the Rhine, and Pfalz (exclusive of Landkreise Speyer, Landau, Bergzabern and Germersheim) by 27 April. The two corps were ordered to readjust their boundaries at the earliest practicable date to conform to the south boundaries of Regierungsbezirke Aachen and Köln.

Twelfth Army Group having announced that Eclipse conditions, with a few modifications, were considered to be in effect, Fifteenth Army published a letter on 23 April, stating that the plan for the occupation of Germany after the German surrender or collapse was considered to be in effect as of that date. The letter reaffirmed the present missions of the two corps and repeated the planning mission of the 66th Infantry Division pertinent to possible disarmament and control of the German forces in the St Nazaire-Lorient sector.

On 23d of April, acting on an ETOUSA directive (letter, Headquarters ETOUSA, dated 12 April 1945, subject: "Establishment of a 'Cordon Sanitaire'"), Fifteenth Army established a "cordon sanitaire" along the Rhine River to protect the areas to the west of the Rhine from louse-borne typhus fever. All crossings of the Rhine River in the Fifteenth Army area were designated either as Ports of Entry or Guard Stations, and all civilians and liberated prisoners of war traveling from east to west were deloused with DDT powder at ports of entry before crossing the river.

In order to carry out the instructions of Fifteenth Army, requiring the take-over of additional areas, each corps made the necessary changes in the disposition of units. On April 24th, the 94th Infantry Division was relieved of responsibility for all of Regierungsbezirk Dusseldorf west of the Rhine River, at which time it moved east of the Rhine and relieved elements of the US 8th Infantry Division in Regierungsbezirk Dusseldorf, south of the Ruhr River. On 25 April, the 82nd and 101st Airborne Divisions were released from army control and passed to the Second British and Seventh US Armies respectively, for offensive missions deeper in Germany.

FIFTEENTH US ARMY  
XXIII CORPS  
OCCUPATIONAL PHASES  
25 APRIL 1945

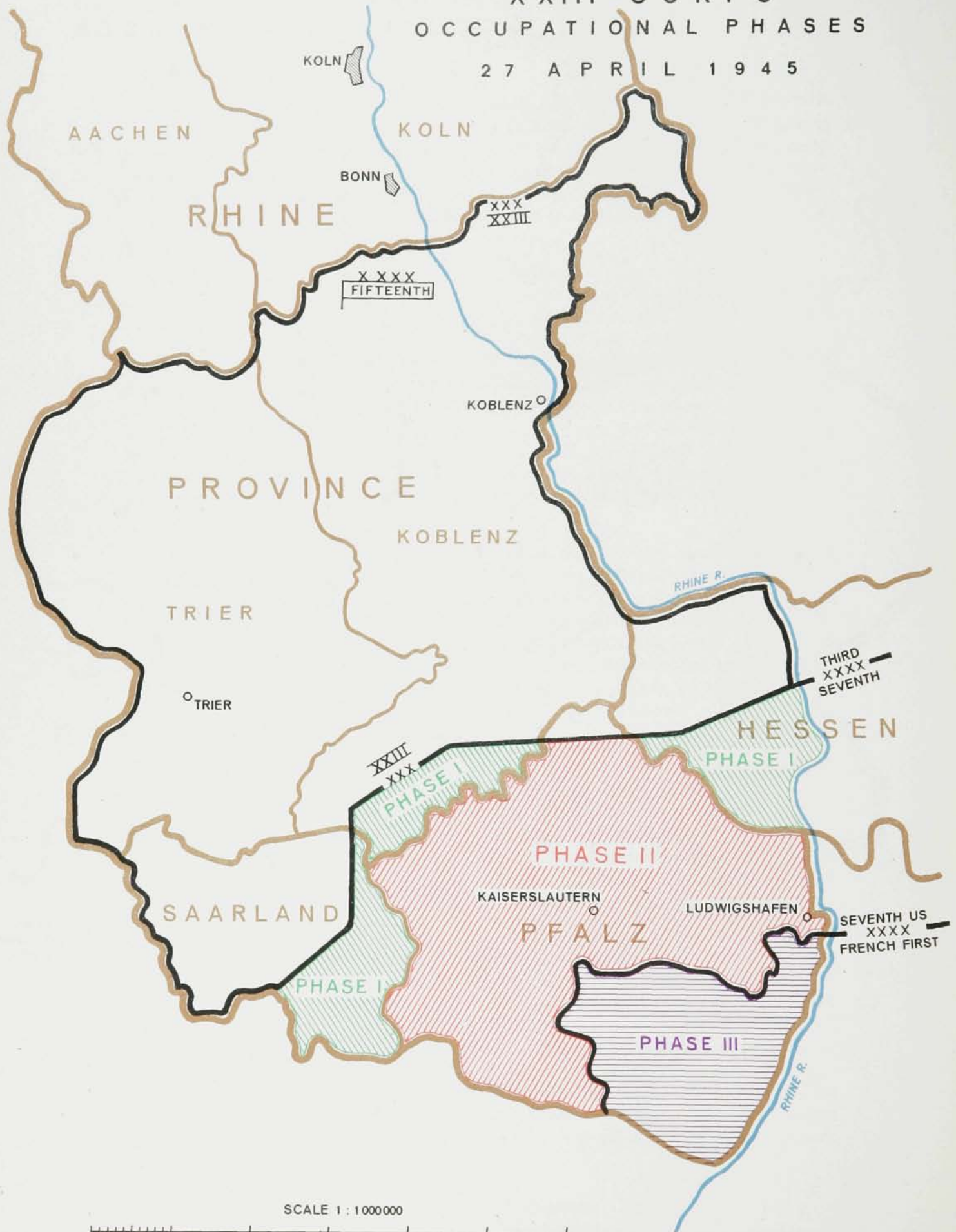


SCALE 1 : 1 000 000

10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 MILES

5TH I. & HSV. Z. J.

FIFTEENTH US ARMY  
XXIII CORPS  
OCCUPATIONAL PHASES  
27 APRIL 1945



SCALE 1 : 1 000 000

10 5 0 10 20 30 40 50 MILES





In order effectively to control the newly acquired area across the Rhine, XXII Corps displaced its CP from Grevenbroich to Hilden on April 24th. XXII Corps Artillery, on the same day, took over the remainder of Regierungsbezirk Köln east of the Rhine, relieving the remainder of the US 8th Infantry Division.

A similar readjustment was going on concurrently in the XXIII Corps area. In the Koblenz Sub-Area, the 54th Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade on 23 April took over the portion of Koblenz west of the Rhine River previously held by the XXII Corps, and, on 25 April, the same XXIII Corps Brigade completed the relief of the 78th Infantry Division and took over all of Regierungsbezirk Koblenz east of the Rhine. On the same day, the Brigade assumed responsibility for the rest of the Koblenz Regierungsbezirk down to the boundary with Saarland, Pfalz, and Hessen. The 28th Infantry division closed in the south portion of the corps area and took over Saarland and Hessen west of the Rhine on 25 April, and Pfalz, exclusive of Landkreise Speyer, Bergzabern, Germersheim and Landau, on the 27th.

On the 27th of April 1945, 12th Army Group published a directive which assigned a new responsibility to the army, that of controlling industrial production. This new responsibility was given to the AC of S, *Industrial Production* G-4. A Production Control Division of G-4 was formed with Colonel Charles H. M. Woodward in charge. Pertinent policies and directives on this subject were distributed to subordinate units of the army and surveys initiated to determine the existing industrial facilities in Fifteenth Army's area in Germany. German pre-war records were located and examined, and those facilities not demolished by the war were surveyed to determine the ability to produce. During this period, technical surveys and data were completed on 2473 industrial plants. Since numerous items were required to support the occupational forces, various plants were directed to resume operation in order to produce items required by the Fifteenth Army and other Allied commands. Facilities processing or producing items essential to the subsistence of the German populace were also authorized to resume operations. The authority or directive was issued to 662 plants, including 69 food processing plants, 67 grain mills, and 109 saw mills. As the area of the Fifteenth Army passed to control of British and French Forces, all the records and surveys were turned over to the force that assumed control of the areas.

With the expansion of the army area, the service area had to be correspondingly expanded. The major problem involved in the expansion was again one of transportation. The rail lines from Thionville to *Supply Problems* Mainz and from Metz to Worms were primarily committed to the support of the Third and Seventh US Armies. This condition resulted in inadequate rail facilities being available to the army, and during critical periods, Fifteenth Army railheads were of necessity restocked by overland truck operations. The army, due to its occupational mission, did not frequently move installations, but numerous service units were transferred to other armies. This necessitated frequent adjustments of units and installations to provide maximum support with limited number of available units.

In order to facilitate control of and to provide adequate security for such a large area, a very extensive communications network was established throughout the entire Rheinprovinz Military District. In addition to the German communication facilities, which were utilized to the maximum extent, and to the normal tactical communication means, a special police radio net was established. 250 watt radio stations were set up at Fifteenth Army Headquarters and XXII and XXIII Corps Headquarters. 50 watt stations were set up at the Sub-Area Headquarters and better than one hundred M8 and M20 armored cars were equipped with 608 and 628 or police Motorola radios.

By 10 May, the day after Victory in Europe, the Fifteenth Army area, designated as the Rheinprovinz Military District, consisted of two corps areas, each subdivided into a number of Sub-Areas and a Frontier Command. The XXII Corps area included six major commands, the five Sub-Areas of Aachen, Köln, West, North and South Dusseldorf, and the Frontier Command. The XXIII Corps area consisted of four major commands, the three Sub-Areas of Trier, Koblenz and Saarland-Pfalz-Hessen, and the Frontier Command.

### *Displaced Persons*

One of the most interesting problems encountered in the course of occupation of these areas in Germany was that presented by displaced persons. At the beginning of the operational phase, there were approximately 310,000 displaced persons in the Fifteenth US Army District. The majority of these persons were Russian nationals whom the Germans had imported for forced labor. On 10 July, when the army ceased operations, there remained in the district approximately 21,000 displaced persons. All Russian nationals had been evacuated, as had all displaced Western Europeans and Italians. Of the 21,000 displaced persons remaining, 18,000 were Poles whose evacuation had been delayed pending the completion of arrangements necessary for their repatriation. The other 3,000 displaced persons comprised various eastern Europeans and "stateless persons."

While awaiting completion of arrangements for their repatriation, displaced persons were maintained in various camps and assembly centers. At one time, 83 permanent displaced persons assembly centers were maintained in the Fifteenth US Army District. These permanent centers were supplemented by many temporary camps and centers established as collecting points.

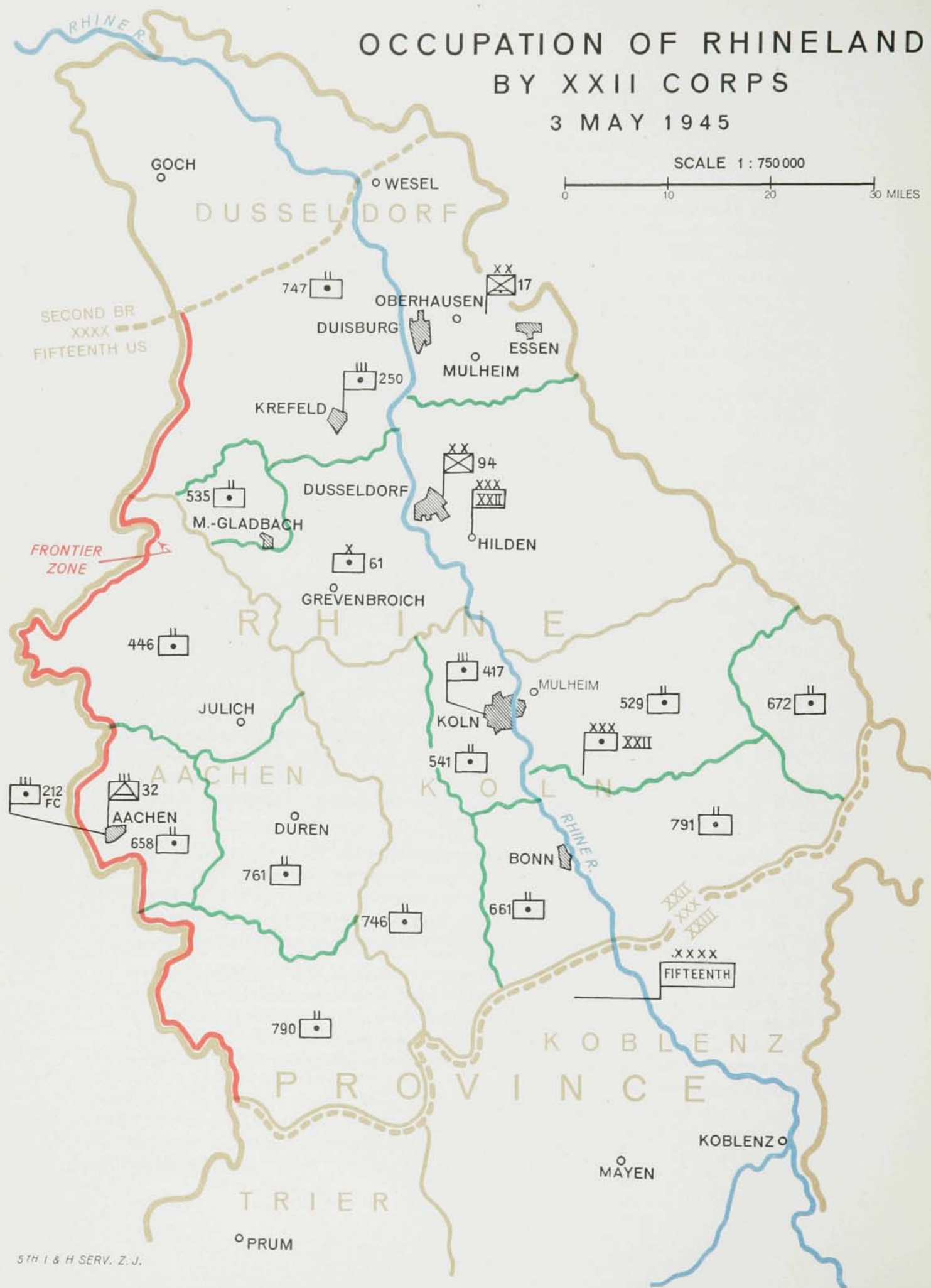
Existing large scale German housing was utilized for camps and centers for displaced persons. Necessary road, bridge, and communications facilities for the movement of displaced persons and their supplies were provided and maintained by army engineers. All displaced persons, before admittance to a center or camp, were screened by counter-intelligence corps personnel for war criminals and security threats.

# OCCUPATION OF RHINELAND BY XXII CORPS

3 MAY 1945

SCALE 1 : 750 000

0 10 20 30 MILES

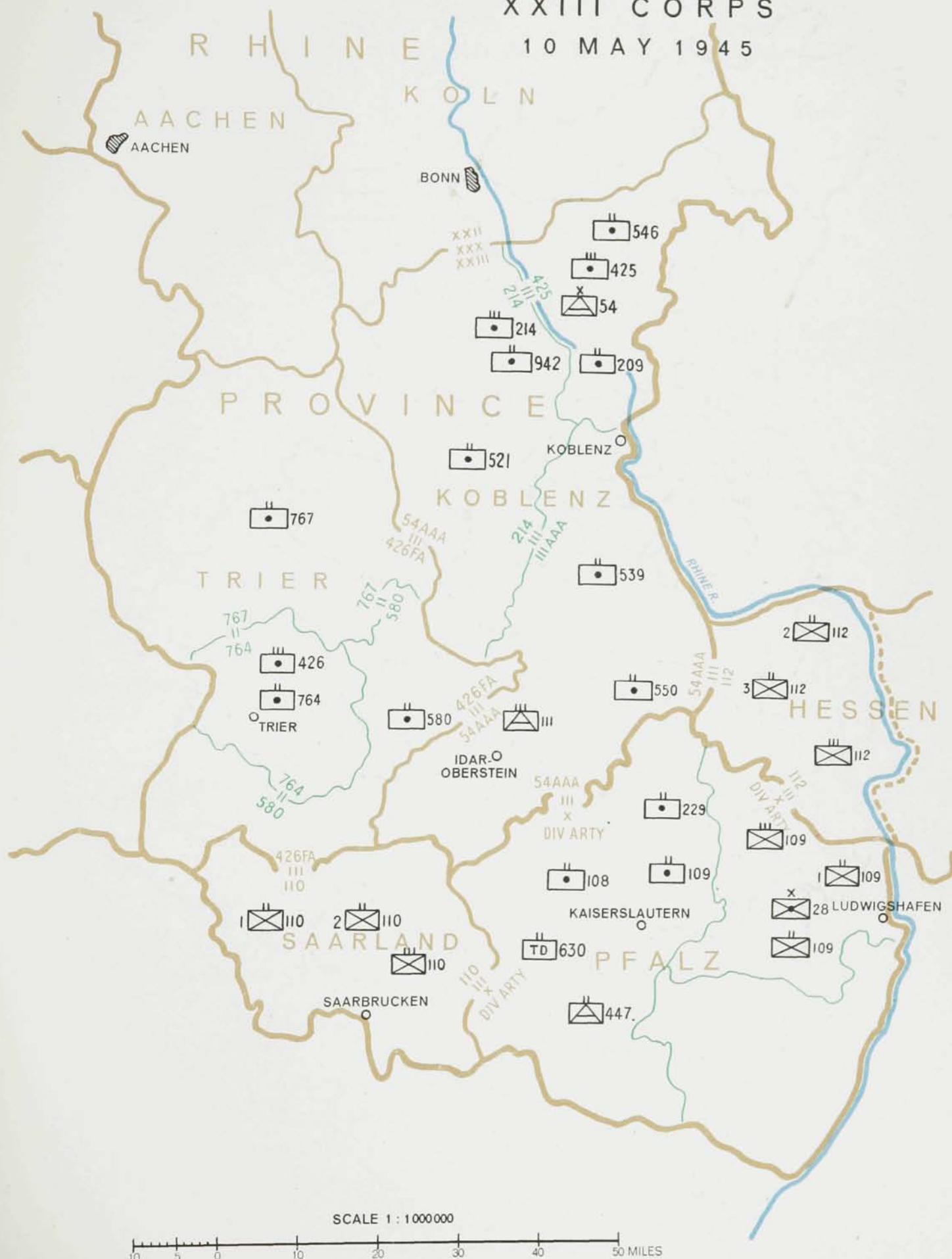




# SECTORS OF RESPONSIBILITY

XXIII CORPS

10 MAY 1945





# MILITARY GOVERNMENT DETACHMENTS

XXII CORPS

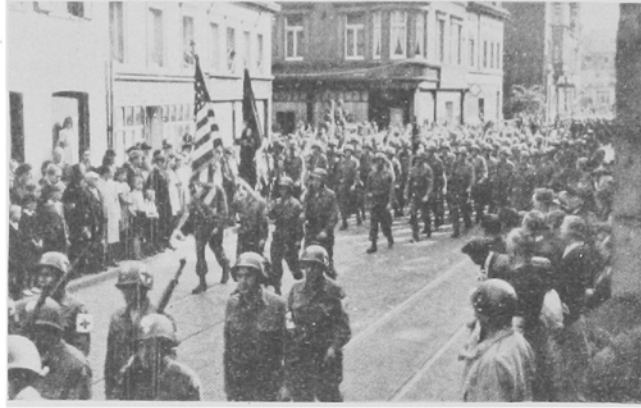
4 MAY 1945

NORTHERN HALF RHINE PROVINCE



SOUTHERN SECTION RHINEPROVINCE  
MILITARY DISTRICT





**Men of XXII Corps in a Victory Parade through the streets of Hilden, Germany. German civilians regarded the parade with open interest. 9 May 1945.**



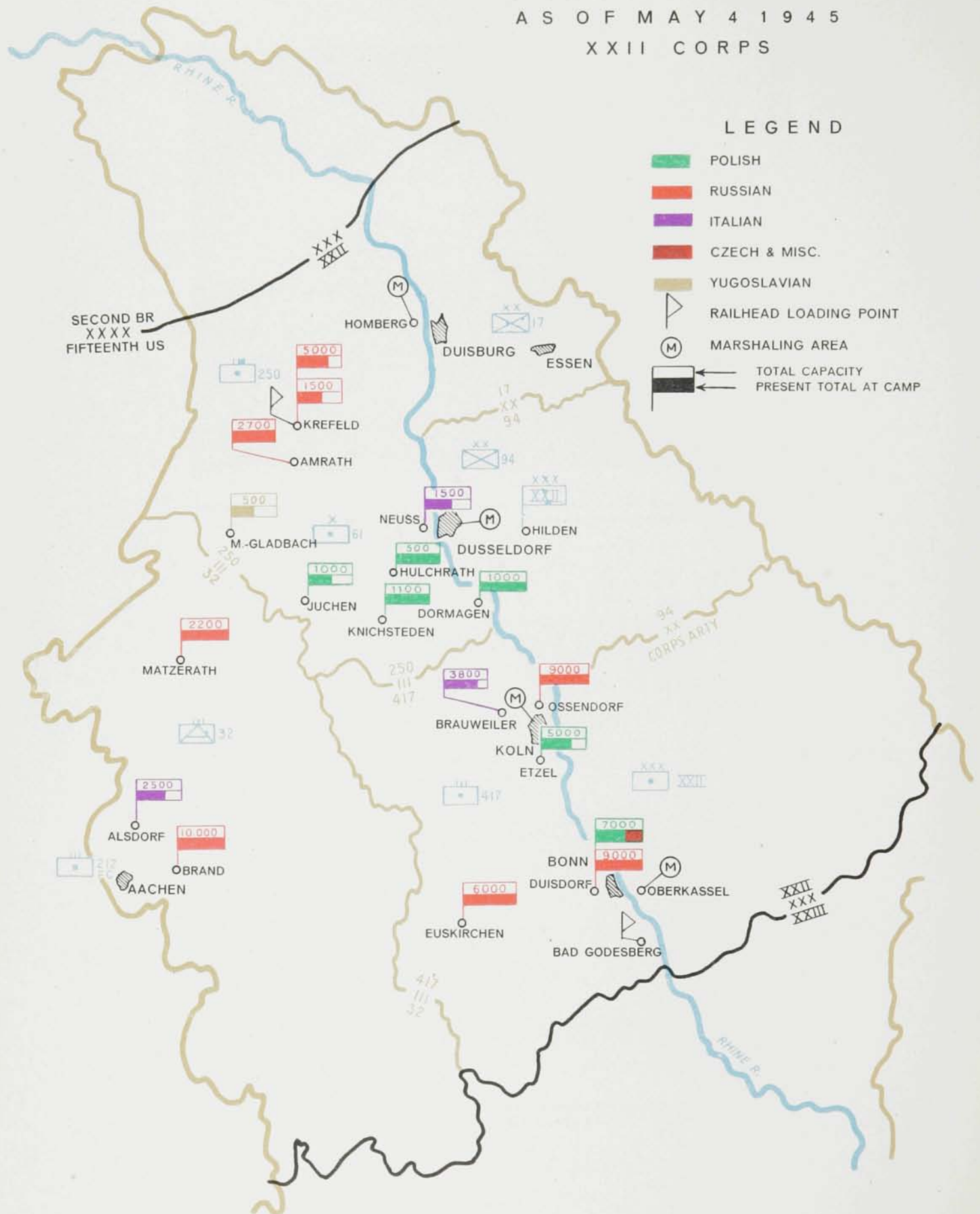


**Section of Displaced Persons' Center, Baumholder, Germany. This camp was the largest in Southern Germany, with a population of 18,000 of whom 99% were Russian. Photo taken 20 April 1945**



**Living quarters of the Displaced Persons' Center, Trier, Germany. Photo taken 16 April 1945**

# PERMANENT DISPLACED PERSONS CAMPS AS OF MAY 4 1945 XXII CORPS



SCALE 1 : 750000

0 10 20 30 MILES



## CHAPTER V

## OCCUPATION AFTER V-E DAY

After the defeat of Germany, the Fifteenth United States Army was primarily concerned with putting Operation "Eclipse" in effect in the Lorient-St. Nazaire Pockets and administering Military Government in the Rhein-provinz and in Saarland, Pfalz and Hessen west of the Rhine.

### LORIENT-ST. NAZAIRE SECTOR

The responsibilities for carrying out Operation "Eclipse" were executed under the supervision of the Commanding General, US 66th Infantry Division, by the French and United States forces as follows:

The French secured and protected all civilian port facilities, public utilities and key installations; disarmed and guarded all enemy personnel; segregated immediately the nationals of Allied nations and assisted in identification, segregation and internment of enemy civilians and war criminals. Finally, along with processing French prisoners of war and French civilians interned by the Germans, the French established the civilian government.

The Americans secured and protected all captured war materials and installations of supply, repair or research; effected the supply, administration and evacuation of Allied prisoners of war, other than the French. In addition, they processed all Allied civilians, other than French, interned by the Germans. The American Air Force disarmed the German Air Force within the occupied zone, and the Allied Naval Commander disarmed the German Navy, all naval and merchant craft afloat and seacoast fortifications.

Both the French and the Americans retained sufficient units in place to prevent movement of any civilians or enemy personnel through the front lines. Organic liaison planes and available French airplanes maintained a constant land and sea search to prevent individual or organized escapes; the French naval vessels patrolled the coast.

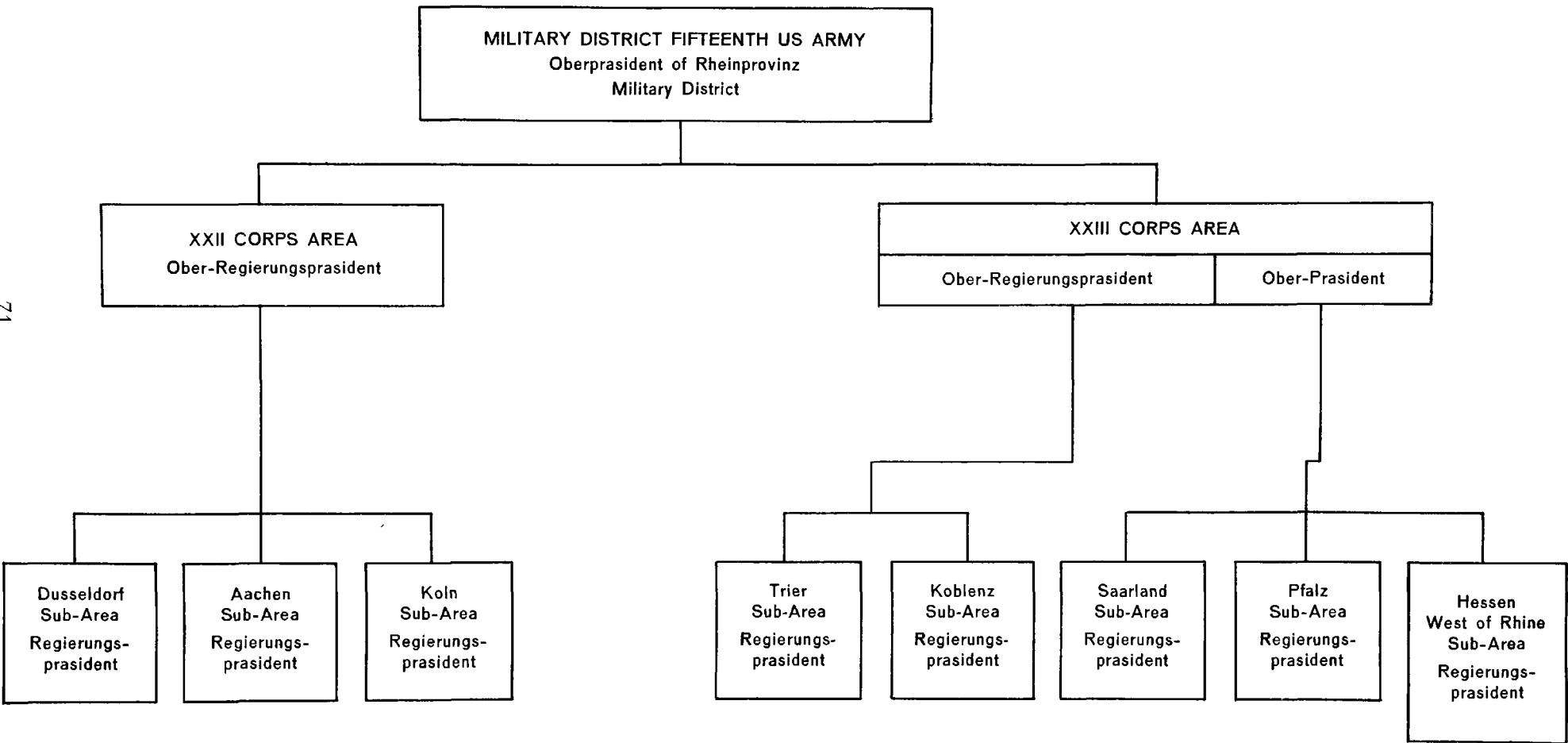
After Operation "Eclipse" had been carried out by the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector, elements of the 66th Infantry Division initiated movement to destinations in the Fifteenth Army District. Control of the Lorient Sector was turned over to the French Military Forces at 0600 B on 18 May; control of the St. Nazaire Sector was turned over to them at 1200 B on 20 May. The French forces in the sector were relieved from operational control of the 66th Infantry Division and reverted to French control at 0001 B on 20 May. On 23 May, the 66th Division CP closed at Chateaubriant and opened at Koblenz, where it remained until 3 June, when the division moved to Marseilles for duties in connection with redeployment of other United States forces.

## MILITARY GOVERNMENT

### *Civil Administration*

An important task confronting the Fifteenth Army after V-E Day was organizing a civilian government which could accept from the Military Government the delegation of most of the responsibility for the work of feeding, housing and controlling the German people. No permanent appointments were made to key positions in the German administrative government

CIVIL GOVERNMENTAL ADMINISTRATION OF RHEINPROVINZ MILITARY DISTRICT



system of any person who had held membership in the Nazi Party. Likewise, many individuals who had served in the initial period were, as a result of subsequent investigation, disqualified for the offices they held. In some cases, German women were appointed and functioned as civilian government officials. No important official position was filled by a known former member of the Nazi Party.

On 19 May 1945, the Fifteenth Army initiated organization of the Rheinprovinz Military District Provincial Government. According to the plan of organization, the area of responsibility of the Fifteenth Army was treated as one province; the provinces of Saarland and Pfalz and that portion of Hessen west of the Rhine River being incorporated as a part of the Rheinprovinz Military District. Of this territory, the three Regierungsbezirke of Dusseldorf, Aachen and Köln, constituting the area of responsibility of the XXII Corps area commander, were placed under one Ober-Regierungspräsident, each of the three having a Regierungsbezirk Präsident and a completely constituted administrative staff. This unit was supervised by the Military Government personnel attached to XXII Corps. The Regierungsbezirke of Trier and Koblenz and the Saarland-Pfalz-Hessen area were similarly organized as a unit in the XXIII Corps area.

By 21 June 1945, effective civil administration within the entire area of the Rheinprovinz Military District had been established at all levels of administration from the province level down to include the Kreis.

Within the first few days of June, it had been determined that the north three Regierungsbezirke Dusseldorf, Aachen and Köln were to pass to British control. This made necessary a division of the Rheinprovinz Military District. As a result, the German Civil Administration could no longer function as an administrative unit for the entire district. Further progress of the reconstitution of the civilian government of the Rheinprovinz Military District was discontinued. The Provincial Government, as it existed on 20 June 1945, together with the Oberpräsident and his staff, passed to the control of I British Corps. Thereupon the south part of the Rheinprovinz, consisting of the Regierungsbezirke Trier and Koblenz, were attached to the administrative system which had been established at Neustadt.

### *Civil Security*

The civilian population during the first two months after the German surrender was generally quiet. However, there were instances of minor and unorganized sabotage throughout the army area, and during the first week of June, seventeen Werewolf trainees from sabotage training schools at Mettmann and Langenberg were arrested.

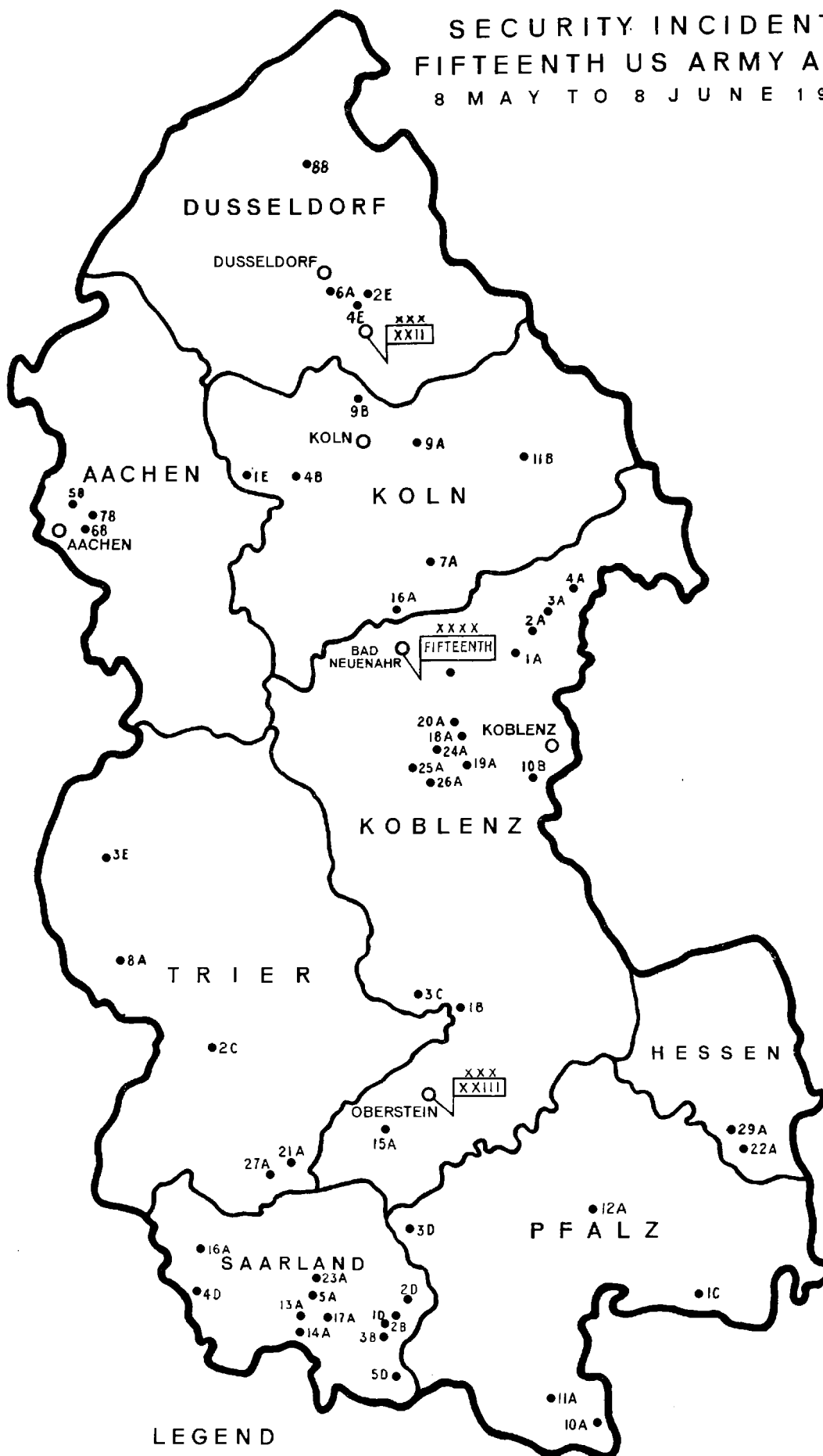
The serious security problem in the Rheinprovinz Military District during May and June was not with die-hard Nazis, however, but was with displaced persons. Just as in the first days of liberation, these people continued to go forth on looting expeditions, culminating in incidents of violence to Germans in the district. The rapid assembly of displaced persons in established camps, restraint imposed upon them by occupational security troops, better housing and supply facilities, the presence of foreign liaison officers operating under the army, and the efforts of the governments of the various nationals concerned in repatriation contributed toward alleviation of the problem.



**An assortment of small arms and other equipment necessary to operate an organized sabotage program collected by the 223d CIC and stored in the basement of the CIC building in Idar-Oberstein, Germany. 23 April 1945. XXII Corps area.**



SECURITY INCIDENTS  
FIFTEENTH US ARMY AREA  
8 MAY TO 8 JUNE 1945

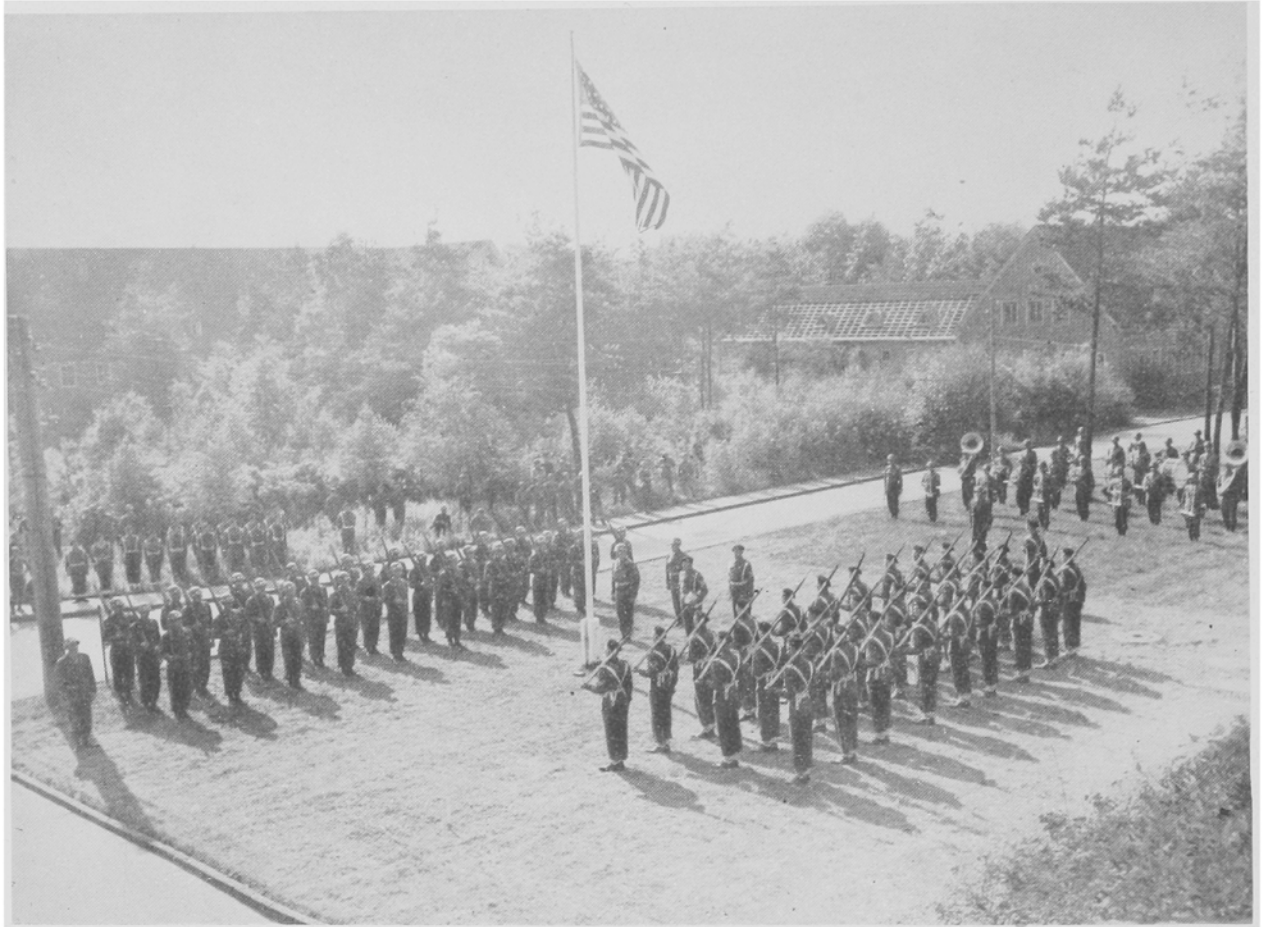


LEGEND

WIRE CUTTING . 1A - 29A  
FIRING ON TROOPS . 1B - 11B  
EXPLOSIONS . 1C - 3C  
PIPELINE SABOTAGE . 1D - 5D  
ROAD OBSTRUCTING . 1E - 4E



Nazi party members exhuming bodies of seventy victims of Gestapo killings at Landwehr, Germany. Political prisoners were roped in pairs, shot through the head with a single bullet, and buried in a mass grave. War Crimes Branch of Judge Advocate Generals Department investigated the occurrence. Photo taken 30 April 1945. XXII Corps Area.



Formal ceremony before XXII Corps Headquarters Building in the Flak Division Kaserne, Hilden, Germany, 15 June 1945, symbolizing the transfer of the XXII Corps Rheinprovinz Area to I British Corps.

### *War Criminals*

On 24 April 1945, the War Crimes Branch of the Judge Advocate Section, Fifteenth US Army, was established to collect evidence concerning cruelties, atrocities, and acts of oppression against members of the armed forces of the United States or other United States nationals. During May and June this commission investigated, among other cases, the assault and murder by German civilians of an American airman who parachuted to earth near Priest, Germany. As a result of their findings the Commanding General, Fifteenth Army, appointed a Military Commission to try four suspects for the violation of the Laws and Usages of War. There were two trials in the case. The first, held on 2 June 1945, in the Kreishaus in Ahrweiler, found the three defendants guilty. The second, called on 16 June to try the remaining defendant who had not been apprehended until 6 June, was held in the same place and resulted in the same verdict. All four defendants were sentenced to death.

By command of Lieutenant General Leonard T. Gerow, three of the defendants were hanged for their crime on 29 June 1945 in the Interrogation Center at Rheinbach. The death sentence of the fourth was commuted to life imprisonment. The executions and imprisonment climaxed the first prosecution of civilian war criminals inside Germany.

### *Transportation*

Upon completion of the war, the immediate problem concerning transportation was the establishment of a Regulation System to regulate the movement of redeployed units through the Fifteenth Army District, the movement of Allied Displaced Persons, and the rehabilitation of the German Rail System. In order to meet the first problem, a road traffic regulation system was established. This system involved the establishment of Regulation Districts and Traffic Regulation Points which were supervised and coordinated by the G-4 Movements Section. Class III Supply Points and bivouac camps were also established in order that redeployment moves could be facilitated. Control of the army road net was delegated to the XXII and XXIII Corps. The movement of Displaced Persons was accomplished by rail transportation and air lift over a period of one and one half months and involved 167,252 persons.

In order to facilitate the transportation demands incident to occupation the army ordered and supervised the rehabilitation of the German rail lines by the German people within the army district. Approximately 1,000 miles of double and single track railway were rehabilitated within the XXII Corps area, and approximately 400 miles of double and single track railway were rehabilitated within the XXIII Corps area.

### *Turnover of the Fifteenth Army Area to the British and French*

On 1 June 1945, an agreement was made between Fifteenth Army and I British Corps for the turnover of the XXII Corps area to the British 53rd Infantry Division and the British Guards Division. On 15 June 1945, a formal ceremony was held at the Flak Division Kaserne, Hilden, Germany, symbolizing the transfer of the XXII Corps Rheinprovinz Area to the British. By 16000/B June 1945, all of the XXII Corps area had passed to I British Corps.

On 5 July 1945, Headquarters Fifteenth Army issued Letter of Instructions No. 20, based upon an agreement between the Commanding Generals of the Fifteenth US and the First French Army. The XXIII Corps was to turn over to the First French Army its territory of Saarland, Pfalz, Hessen west of the Rhine, and the Rheinprovinz Regierungsbezirke of Trier and Koblenz.

The relief of the United States units by the French began on 5 July when the 1st French Armored Division of the II French Corps moved into the Pfalz and Hessen area. By 8 July, Pfalz had passed to French control, and by 10 July, the French took over all of Saarland, Hessen west of the Rhine, and the Regierungsbezirke of Koblenz and Trier.

### *Redeployment*

The policy of "last to arrive in theater, first to ship out" rendered difficult the service functions of this command since most of the units were in the "last to arrive" category. Effective 15 May, service units were alerted for movement. Losses of service units necessitated the use of PW's and DP's and the employment of units on tasks for which they were not organized. The shortage of service units was relieved when the British took over the northern half of the Rheinprovinz on 15 June 1945 and the problem ceased to exist when the French took over the southern half of the province on 10 July.

With the turn-over of Koblenz and Trier, the Fifteenth US Army no longer had control of any area in Germany. The final mission of the Fifteenth US Army was the movement of troops under its command to assembly and staging areas in preparation for employment in the Pacific Theatre or transfer to an occupational army.





**APPENDIX No. 1**

**LIEUTENANT GENERAL LEONARD TOWNSEND GEROW**

**Commanding General**

**Fifteenth United States Army**

Lieutenant General Leonard Townsend Gerow was born on 13 July 1888 in Petersburg, Virginia, the son of Leonard R. Gerow, a railroad conductor who lived to see two of his sons generals in the United States Army. The Gerow family is of French extraction. The General's ancestors spelled the name "Giraud" and fled the Huguenot persecutions to become settlers in America.

Leonard Gerow attended high school in Petersburg and then went to the Virginia Military Institute from which he graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in 1911. At VMI his list of student honors included the three-times presidency of his class and the captaincy of "B" Company. He graduated high in his class and, as a result, was the recipient of the "Honor Appointment" which permits one man in each VMI graduating class to become a Regular Army second lieutenant without further examination. He was sworn in as a second lieutenant on 29 September 1911.

Until the first World War, General Gerow passed through a series of assignments as a company grade officer in the Infantry. In 1915 he won commendation for his work in Texas in connection with the Galveston storm. He wears the campaign ribbon for service in Vera Cruz during the Mexican Campaign. He became a first lieutenant on 1 July 1916 and on 15 May 1917 was promoted to captain.

From the 16th of January 1918 until 30 June 1920, General Gerow was on duty with the Signal Corps. He rose to the rank of temporary lieutenant colonel and directed the procurement and distribution of signal corps equipment in Paris and, after hostilities ended, the disposal of excess signal supplies. His service in this connection was recognized by the award of the Distinguished Service Medal and the French Legion of Honor.

On 1 July 1920, General Gerow, back on duty with the infantry, was promoted to the grade of major. In the between-war period he completed, in 1925, the Advanced Course at the Infantry School and was an honor graduate in 1926 from the Command and General Staff School. In 1931, he completed the Field Officer's Course in Chemical Warfare and Tanks and the same year took a course at the Army War College.

In addition to his school assignments during this period, General Gerow served as an infantry battalion commander in the Philippines and at Shanghai, China; as executive officer in the office of the Assistant Secretary of War; as executive officer of the War Department War Plans Division; as an officer on the staff of the Chief of Infantry; as Assistant-Commandant of the Infantry School at Fort Benning, Georgia; and as Chief of Staff of the 2nd Infantry Division.

The General's China service in 1932 was marked by a brief encounter with the beginning of Japanese aggressiveness. His battalion was guarding a Shanghai sector when one night Japanese troops invaded it to arrest a Chinese interpreter. Major Gerow was faced with the double problem of indicating clearly to the Japanese that their presence in the American area would not be tolerated and, at the same time, restraining his own angered troops. He was successful in solving both problems. The Japanese withdrew and on the following morning sent their apologies.

On 1 August 1935, General Gerow became a Lieutenant Colonel. On 1 September 1940, he became a Colonel in permanent grade and one month later, on 1 October 1940, he became a temporary Brigadier General. He became a Major General on 14 February 1942.

On 16 December 1940, General Gerow went on duty in the War Department as Acting Assistant Chief of Staff, War Plans Division. He held the post as an "acting" staff officer until 23 December 1941 when his staff position was confirmed. He continued the War Plans work until 16 February 1942 when he assumed command of the 29th Infantry Division.

For his work as Assistant Chief of Staff and as the 29th's Division Commander, General Gerow was awarded the Legion of Merit on 27 September 1943.

General Gerow left his divisional command on 17 July 1943 when he assumed command of the V Corps. As commander of the largest unit of troops in the ETO he simultaneously was designated Commanding General of the United States Field Forces in the European Theater. In this capacity he played a major part, during the next 11 months, in the final preparations for the invasion of continental Europe. For his contribution he was awarded on 8 August 1944 an Oak Leaf Cluster to his Distinguished Service Medal.

From the time of his assumption of an infantry division command, General Gerow became noted as a general who got out with his men. A newspaperman who commented on the amount of time which the 29th commander spent in the field and away from his desk was answered with a statement that "You do not kill Germans with spit balls." He continued this philosophy with the invasion. He was the first corps commander on shore on "D" day and on that day, his corps CP was functioning on Omaha Beach approximately 400 yards from the fighting lines.

As the battle moved away from the Channel and into the Normandy countryside, V Corps assumed an assigned position on the left flank of the First United States Army. Between 14 June and 11 July, the corps held the Caumont salient and captured, after a fierce battle, the stoutly-defended Hill 192 near St. Lo.

Between 12 July and 16 August, V Corps crossed the Vire River to capture Tinchebray and then, in the five days beginning on 18 August, the General swung them across the entire front to close the Falaise Gap, a maneuver which formed the Chambois pocket and netted the corps 17,000 German prisoners.

General Gerow kept close to his own advance units as V Corps raced east across France to capture Paris. He was the first American officer of his rank to enter Paris following its liberation by two of his divisions, the 2nd French Armored and the 4th United States Infantry. For this part of his work he was awarded, on 22 September 1944, the Silver Star. The citation read:

For gallantry in action against the enemy on 25 August 1944 in France. While fighting was still raging in and around Paris, Major General Gerow, displaying marked valor, courageously drove through intense 20 mm machine gun and sniper fire to reach the city. Although many intersections were blocked with barricades manned by German troops, he proceeded unhesitatingly through the dangerous streets to effect an important conference with the Commanding General of the French forces within the city. Major General Gerow's gallant action was an inspiration to the members of his command and reflects great credit upon himself and the military service.

Between 31 August and 11 September, General Gerow's V Corps advanced to the northeast to liberate Compiègne, St. Quentin, Charleville, Mezières, Sedan, Bastogne, and a second European capital, Luxembourg. On 11 September, patrols entered Germany and on 14 September major units of his 28th and 4th Infantry Divisions pierced the Siegfried Line. Between 23 October and 10 December the corps participated in the Huertgen Forest battle and between 16 December and 13 January stopped Von Rundstedt's right wing, the 6th SS Panzer Army, in all its attempts to break through the Monchau Area road net and advance to the Meuse.

On 15 January 1945, General Gerow left V Corps to assume command of the 15th United States Army. On 6 February, he was promoted to the grade of Lieutenant General with the promotion effective as of 1 January 1945.

In recognition of his work in the Normandy assault the Russian Government awarded General Gerow the Order of Suvorov, 2nd Grade. On 30 January 1945, a decree of the French Government awarded him the Legion of Honor with the grade of Commandeur. This award carries with it the Croix de Guerre with Palm.

General Gerow is the senior half of a "brother team" in the ranks of General Officers of the United States Army. His brother, Lee S. Gerow, graduated from Virginia Military Institute in 1913 and is now Brigadier General and Assistant Division Commander of the 85th Infantry Division in Italy. Two other brothers are in business in St. Petersburg, Florida. The General's sister is Mrs. Freeman W. Jones of Roanoke, Virginia.

Mrs. Gerow, the former Mary Louise Kennedy of St. Paul, Minnesota, is living at 321 Marshall Avenue in St. Paul during General Gerow's absence.



**APPENDIX No. 2**

**SURRENDER TERMS**

**Lorient - St. Nazaire Pockets**

## **TERMS OF SURRENDER**

The German Commander hereby agrees to absolute and unconditional surrender at 1720, 8 May 1945, of the St. Nazaire area to include all surrounding areas not presently occupied by Allied forces; of himself, of all military forces, citizens of the Reich, all of whom will become prisoners of war; of all equipment, works, utilities, armament, material, accoutrements, supplies, munitions, weapons, vessels of all kinds, and installations, all inclusive, intact and in their present state, contained within such surrendered area; and that he will comply with all initial details for execution of capitulation attached hereto or which the Allied Commander may see fit hereafter to direct. subject only to the rules or laws of war and the Geneva Convention.

All hostilities will cease at 0001, 9 May 1945.

/s/ Adalbert Engelken, Major,  
for Commander of German Garrison.

Witnessed by:

/s/ Major Charles McKew Parr, Jr..  
for the Allied Commander.

**HEADQUARTERS 12TH ARMY GROUP COSTAL SECTOR U. S. ARMY**  
**APO 454**

**INITIAL DETAILS FOR EXECUTION OF CAPITULATION**

**Inclosure No. 1 to "Terms of Surrender"**

The following terms are stipulated as the initial details of the execution of the capitulation of the Commanding General German Fortress Command and compliance herewith is directed.

1. Hostilities will cease between the Allied Command and the German Fortress Command at *0001 8 May 1945* (Lorient)

*0001 9 May 1945* (St Nazaire)

2. All prepared German demolitions, mine fields, booby traps, and other placed charges will be physically removed and rendered inert within the area now occupied by German troops. Above described demolitions will be piled along the roads after they have been made inert, and will be shown on an overlay to be submitted to the Headquarters of the Allied Command forty-eight (48) hours after time date surrender becomes effective as indicated in the terms of the surrender.

a. Priority in this work is established as follows:

- (1) Such clearance as prescribed in Paragraph 5 will be completed within six (6) hours of the surrender time.
- (2) All other roads will be cleared within forty-eight (48) hours of the surrender time-date.
- (3) All front line areas will be cleared within forty-eight (48) hours of the surrender time-date.
- (4) Rear areas and harbors will be cleared as rapidly as possible.

b. Immediately upon the cessation of hostilities all main traveled routes will be clearly marked to guarantee the safe movement thereon by Allied occupation troops, and commissioned guides will be provided by the German Fortress as deemed necessary by the Allied Commander to further insure such safe movement.

3. Necessary immediate action will be taken to prevent sabotage of German arms or equipment and any damage upon boat facilities, docks, quays, loading facilities and machinery thereof, ships, basins or gates thereto, railways, and any other civilian, military, naval, or air utilities, installations or structures and to prevent destruction of all military, naval or air force documents, papers and records of any kind within the zone.

4. Commander of the German Fortress will furnish the Headquarters of the Allied Command, not more than forty-eight hours after the surrender:

a. Complete overlays or maps showing the location of all munitions, and the location, prior to removal in accordance with the provisions of Paragraph 2, of all mine fields, booby traps and demolitions, together with accurate plans of such mine fields.

b. Overlays or maps showing the location of all military, naval and air force stores, equipment, facilities, present supply installations, railheads, truckheads and ration depots together with complete inventories.

c. Complete rosters by unit, grade and organization of all members of his command.

d. A roster of all individuals held in arrest or interned by German Fortress Command, with particulars of each case.

e. A list or roster of Medical Personnel that will be left in hospitals to care for the sick and wounded German personnel. A detailed list of medical

supplies necessary to care for the German sick and wounded in these hospitals together with the hospitals' locations.

5. The road *Lorient-Kerguier-Lanester-Kerbote-Cauden* (at Lorient),  
*Fay de Br-Bouveron-Savenay-Montoir-St. Nazaire-Le Baule*  
(at St. Nazaire), to and including

the shoulders, will immediately be cleared of all mines and will be used exclusively for communications between the Allied Command and the German Fortress. Vehicles traveling on this route will be unmolested as long as hostile acts are not committed. Notice will be given by German Fortress Command when this has been accomplished by message delivered by a vehicle marked with a white flag approaching Allied lines on that highway.

6. All small arms, ammunition, and other individual equipment in forward elements will be placed in field dumps at the battalion level to be first selected by the German Fortress Commander except blanket rolls, first aid packets and messing. These dumps will be close to a road and at least one hundred fifty yards (150) in front of the present German lines. All equipment and weapons will be neatly stacked by front line troops so that rapid inventory is possible. Inventory will be made by the German Fortress Command. Necessary guard of this equipment will be furnished by the German Fortress Command until such time as relieved by Allied troops. Overlays and inventories of these dumps will be furnished as directed in Paragraph 4a.

7. All other equipment, military materiel and accoutrements will be assembled in centrally located warehouses or field dumps at battalion level, inventoried and located on overlays, copies of which will be delivered as directed in Paragraph 4a. Wheeled administrative and supply vehicles will be disarmed and together with animals will remain in the hands of troops until further orders for use of supply and administration. Kitchens and messing equipment will be retained by German units.

8. The location of all mine fields will be marked clearly on the ground and such markings will remain in place after all mines are removed.

9. Priority will be given to clearing the roads of all mines.

10. No damage will be done to any military, naval, or civilian installations, buildings or equipment.

11. All German units will be assembled by battalion in the vicinity of their regimental CP's or on similar command level within forty-eight (48) hours after surrender, at which time Allied troops will enter and occupy the surrendered areas. Surrendering elements will remain at such points until moved by order of the Allied Command.

- a. Military personnel requiring medical attention will continue to be handled in the normal manner, to include hospitalization where necessary.

- b. All persons not citizens of or members of the armed forces of the German Reich, excepting French citizens, who are now or have been employed, voluntarily or involuntarily, by the German Fortress Command will be segregated and assembled without delay, prepared for delivery to the Allied Command.

12. Occupation of surrendered areas by Allied forces will under no circumstances and in no way be construed to relieve German forces from any responsibility or guarantee which has been or may hereafter be imposed upon the surrendered forces.

Signed at

BY COMMAND of THE ALLIED COMMANDER:

**APPENDIX No. 3**

**LETTERS OF INSTRUCTIONS**

**No. 13 THROUGH 20**



# HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY

APO 408

28 March 1945

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Instructions Number Thirteen.

**TO :** Commanding General, XXII Corps, APO 250, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, APO 454,  
U.S. Army.

1. a. See Daily Intelligence Summary.

b. Ninth U.S. Army, under operational control of Twenty-One Army Group, is extending its bridgeheads north of the RUHR River.

c. First U.S. Army attacks from REMAGEN bridgehead to seize line GIESSEN-SIEGEN-SIEGE River to its junction with the RHINE.

d. Third U.S. Army exploits the crossing of the RHINE and attacks vigorously to seize HANAU-GIESSEN.

e. Seventh U.S. Army, as part of Sixth Army Group, continues to eliminate pockets of resistance west of the RHINE and establish bridgeheads across the RHINE south of the MAIN River.

f. Air cooperation through Ninth Air Force Detachment, Fifteenth Army.

2. a. *Phase 1:* (From the time Fifteenth Army assumes control until 5 April 1945). Fifteenth U.S. Army takes over by 1 April 1945 the defense of the west bank of the RHINE from BONN (Excl) to NEUSS (Excl.) Operational control of units now defending the sector will pass temporarily to the Fifteenth U.S. Army until such time as these units are relieved by Fifteenth U.S. Army units.

*Phase 2:* By 5 April 1945, Fifteenth U.S. Army extends the defensive sector on the west bank of the RHINE to include HOMBERG. (See overlay).

At time to be designated later as agreed upon by Army Group Commanders, occupational area will be extended north to include MUNCHEN-GLADBACH (F0989).

b. Assumes command by 1 April 1945 of 66th Infantry Division (Reinf) and the responsibility for containing the LORIENT-ST. NAZAIRE pocket. This includes operational control of all French forces currently in the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector.

c. Boundaries. (Road and town running rights to both).

(1) Between Twelfth and Twenty-one Army Groups:

*Phase 1:*

DUTCH-GERMAN frontier (K9084) - WEGBERG (K9783) - RHEIN-DAHLEN (F0384) - WICKRATH (F0782) - GLEHN (F1986) - RJ (F2486) - NEUSS (F2789) (all inclusive to Twenty-One Army Group). (See overlay).

*Phase 2:*

As in Phase 1 to GEISENKIRCHEN (F1384). GEISENKIRCHEN (F1384) north to TRIET River, TRIET River to bridge (F149923). All inclusive to Twenty-One Army Group. Road to SCHIEFBAHN (F1694), WILLICH (F1796), KREFELD-UERDINGEN (A1804). DIMMERS (A1813), MORS (A2117), railroad bridge (A2620) all inclusive to Fifteenth U.S. Army. (See overlay).

- (2) Between First and Fifteenth U.S. Armies:  
Commencing at German-Belgian border at (K 9131) the road north to KORNELI-MUNSTER (K 9038), SCHEVENHUTTE (F 0142), LANGERWEHE (F 0347), Road junction at F 1045 all inclusive to Fifteenth U.S. Army, DUREN (F 1246), ESCHWEILER (F 1947), LECHENICH (F 3245), WEILERSWIST (F 3740), HEIMZER-HEIM (F 4236), WALDORF (F 4541), BORNHEIM (F 4841) to junction of road and RHINE River at (F 5143) all inclusive to First U.S. Army. (See overlay).

3. a. XXII Corps:

86th Inf Div (available 28 March)  
97th Inf Div (available on or about 31 March)  
94th Inf Div (available on call by XXII Corps)  
20th Armd Div (available on or about 3 April)  
Supporting troops as they become available.

- (1) *Phase 1:* Takes over by 1 April the defense of the West bank of the RHINE from BONN (Excl) to NEUSS (Excl); assumes operational control of units now defending the sector at time of take-over until such time as these units are relieved by Fifteenth U.S. Army units. Boundaries as in paragraph 2 c (1) and (2). (See overlay).

*Phase 2:* By 5 April extends the defensive sector on the west bank of the RHINE to include HOMBERG. Boundaries as in paragraph 2 c (1). (See overlay).

At time to be designated, take over additional occupational area to include MUNCHEN-GLADBACH.

- (2) Take over responsibility for security and military government of Army area forward of western border of GERMANY until relieved by subsequent order.

b. XXIII Corps: Continue present mission.

c. 66th Infantry Division: Continue present mission.

4. Pending assumption of administrative control by Fifteenth Army, units will be served by existing installations operated by First and Ninth Armies. Detailed administrative instructions will be published separately.

5. a. Signal Instructions through technical channels.

b. CP's:

Fifteenth Army	DINANT (09987), BELGIUM
XXII Corps	GREVENBROICH (F1977), GERMANY
XXIII Corps	VOUZIERS (T8094), FRANCE
66th Infantry Division	CHATEAUBRIANT (J2108), FRANCE

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:

O. C. MOOD  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. DONEGAN  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3

# HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY

APO 408

AG 312.1 (15 A) GNMDC

28 March 1945

**SUJECT:** Letter of Instructions Number Fourteen.

**TO** : Commanding General, XXII Corps, APO 250, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, U.S. Army.

1. a. See Daily Intelligence Summary.

b. Ninth U.S. Army, under operational control of Twenty-One Army Group, is attacking north of the RUHR River in the general direction of MUNSTER.

c. First and Third U.S. Armies are attacking from their bridgeheads over the RHINE in the direction of KASSEL.

d. Seventh U.S. Army, as part of Sixth Army Group, is attacking east from its bridgeheads over the RHINE.

e. Ninth Air Force and RAF are disarming German Air Force installations. Fifteenth Army air cooperation is available through Ninth Air Force Detachment, Fifteenth Army.

f. Com Z is taking over and operating lines of communication and installations in GERMANY west of the RHINE River. It is responsible for furnishing administrative support to the armies, but has no area control in GERMANY.

2. Fifteenth U.S. Army:

a. For present mission, see paragraph 2. Letter of Instructions Number Thirteen, dated 28 March 1945.

b. Will be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern the RHINE PROVINCE (including the German RHEINPROVINZ, SAARLAND, PALATINATE, and that portion of HESSEN west of the RHINE River) progressively as the advance proceeds eastward from the RHINE River. (See overlay).

3. a. XXII Corps:

(1) Continue present mission (see paragraph 3 a, Letter of Instructions Number Thirteen, dated 28 March 1945).

(2) As troops are available, be prepared to occupy, organize and govern additional areas in rear of First and Ninth Armies to include eventually all of the RHEINPROVINZ west of the RHINE River in Regierungsbezirk DUSSELDORF, AACHEN and KÖLN. (See overlay).

(3) Be prepared to occupy, organize and govern the area across the RHINE included in the RHEINPROVINZ Regierungsbezirk of DUSSELDORF and KÖLN as the advance of First and Ninth Armies proceeds eastward. (See overlay).

(4) Effective at a time to be designated, be prepared to furnish one infantry regiment on 24 hours notice to reinforce "T" forces in the RUHR area.

**b. XXIII Corps:**

Troops to be assigned as they become available.

- (1) Be prepared to occupy, organize and govern Regierungsbezirk TRIER and KOBLENZ in the RHEINPROVINZ, and SAARLAND, PALATINATE, and that portion of HESSEN west of the RHINE River.
  - (2) Be prepared to occupy additional areas across the RHINE in rear of Seventh, Third, and First Armies as they advance eastward.
- c. (1) Occupational policies and procedures will be in conformance with the following SHAEF documents:**  
Military Occupation Handbook  
Unit Commanders Handbook, GERMANY  
Handbook for Military Government in GERMANY
- (2) Security measures will include guarding to the extent consistent with the hostile threat:  
U. S. Installations;  
Lines of communication including railroad lines and yards, bridges and highways;  
Key communications points;  
Intelligence targets;  
German war materiel dumps;  
Concentration areas for German military and civilian personnel;  
Displaced persons camps;  
Handbook for Military Government in GERMANY
  - (3) Military government detachments will be reinforced with security detachments.

**4. a. See references referred to in paragraph 3 x (1).**

**b. Additional administrative provisions later.**

**5. a. CP's.**

Fifteenth Army - Present: DINANT.

XXII Corps Present: GREVENBROICH - Final: To be Reported.

XXIII Corps - Present: VOUZIERES - Final: To be Reported.

**b. Additional Signal Instructions later.**

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD**  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

**OFFICIAL:**

**WM. E. DONEGAN**  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3

**HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY**

**APO 408**

**AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC**

**29 March 1945**

**SUBJECT: Letter of Instructions Number Fifteen.**

**TO : Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, APO 454,  
U. S. Army.**

**1. In accordance with Letter of Instructions No. 18, Headquarters Twelfth Army Group dated 23 March 1945, Fifteenth Army assumes command of the 66th Infantry Division, reinforced, and responsibility for containing the enemy garrisons in LORIENT and ST. NAZAIRE pockets, effective 311200 March 1945.**

**2. The 66th Infantry Division, reinforced, will continue its present mission of containing the enemy garrisons in the LORIENT and ST. NAZAIRE pockets, and protecting the zone included within the boundaries of the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector.**

**a. Troops**

**(1) United States**

**66th Infantry Division reinforced: current attachments remain in effect.**

**(2) French**

**Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, will continue to exercise operational control of French forces operating with the 66th Infantry Division on current mission.**

**3. Support for supply, maintenance, and evacuation will continue to be provided by agencies of the Communications Zone. Specific agencies will be as designated by the Commanding General, Communications Zone.**

**4. a. Appropriate signal instructions will be issued through technical channels.**

**b. Command Posts:**

**Fifteenth US Army - Chateau D'Ardenne, Belgium (P-0586).  
66th Infantry Division - Chateaubriant, France (J-2208).**

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff**

**OFFICIAL:**

**WM. E. DONEGAN  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3**

# HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY

APO 408

AG 312.1 (15A) GNMDC

9 April 1945

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Instructions Number Sixteen.

**TO :** Commanding General, 106th Infantry Division, APO 443,  
U.S. Army.

## 1. References:

a. Letter, Headquarters Fifteenth US Army, file AG 353 GNMDC, dated 14 March 1945, Subject: "Rehabilitation and Retraining of the 106th Infantry Division, and Reconstitution of Certain Elements of the Division."

b. Letter, Headquarters Fifteenth US Army, file AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC, dated 29 March 1945, Subject: "Letter of Instructions Number Fifteen."

2. The 106th Infantry Division will be prepared to relieve the 66th Infantry Division in the ST. NAZAIRE and LORIENT sectors effective not later than 5 May 1945.

3. On relieving the 66th Infantry Division, the mission of the 106th Infantry Division will be as follows:

a. Contain the enemy garrisons in ST. NAZAIRE (N5763) and LORIENT (07222).

b. Protect the zone shown in Inclosure 1, Overlay.

c. In the event of surrender or collapse of German resistance, be prepared to occupy the area and disarm and control the German forces therein until relieved by Communications Zone.

(1) If the above situation should occur prior to an overall surrender or collapse of organized resistance by the German government or German High Command, the German forces in the area will be disarmed and evacuated as PW's in the normal manner.

(2) If the situation should occur after a declaration by the Supreme Commander that there has been a formal surrender or collapse of organized resistance by the German government or German High Command (the beginning of Operation ECLIPSE), the procedures and policies outlined in Inclosures 3, 4 and 5 dealing with personnel, equipment and civilian affairs will be put into effect.

## 4. Troops.

a. Effective with the relief of the 66th Infantry Division the attachments of that division will be attached to the 106th Infantry Division.

b. Upon assumption of command of this sector the Commanding General, 106th Infantry Division will exercise operational control over all French forces operating in the zone as shown on overlay, subject to the following conditions:

(1) Col Marchand, Deputy Commander of all French forces in the zone, will be kept informed of any contemplated use of French forces, and will be authorized to present his recommendations on use of these troops.

(2) Organization of units and cadres and distribution of arms and equipment remain the responsibility of General de Larminat, the Commanding General of all French forces engaged in containing isolated enemy garrisons in western FRANCE.



5. For Intelligence Summary; see Inclosure No. 2.

6. For coordination of plans, direct communication is authorized with the following:

- a. Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division.
- b. Commander of Naval Forces for France (Headquarters In Paris adjacent to Headquarters Communications Zone.
- c. Commanding General, Communications Zone.
- d. Commanding Officer, Ninth Air Force Detachment, Fifteenth Army.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:

O. C. MOOD  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. DONEGAN  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3

**HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY**  
**APO 408**

**AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC**

**SUBJECT: Amendment to Letter of Instructions Number Sixteen.**  
**U.S. Army.**

**TO : Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, APO 454,**  
**Commanding General, 106th Infantry Division, APO 443,**  
**U.S. Army.**

**1. References:**

a. Letter of Instructions Number Sixteen, this headquarters, file AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC, dated 9 April 1945. (Additional copies of this letter are being forwarded to the 66th Infantry Division under separate cover.)

2. The 106th Infantry Division is relieved of responsibilities and mission set forth in Letter of Instructions Number Sixteen, this headquarters, dated 9 April 1945.

**3. The 66th Infantry Division will:**

a. Continue its present mission of containing the enemy garrisons at ST. NAZAIRE (N5763) and LORIENT (07222) and protecting the zone included within the boundaries of the Twelfth Army Group Coastal Sector.

b. Continue the training of attached elements of the 106th Infantry Division as directed in letter, this headquarters, subject: "Reconstitution and Training of Certain Elements of the 106th Infantry Division," dated 16 April 1945.

c. In the event of surrender or collapse of enemy resistance within the pockets, be prepared to occupy the area and disarm and control the German forces therein.

(1) If the above situation should occur prior to an overall surrender or collapse of organized resistance by the German government or German High Command, the German forces in the area will be disarmed and evacuated as Prisoners of War in the normal manner.

(2) If the situation should occur after a declaration by the Supreme Commander that there has been a formal surrender or collapse of organized resistance by the German government or German High Command (the beginning of Operation ECLIPSE), the procedures and policies in inclosures 2, 3, 4, and 5 of reference letter will be put into effect. These inclosures contain those portions of Operation ECLIPSE applicable to the ST. NAZAIRE-LORIENT sector.

4. For coordination of ECLIPSE plans, the Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division is authorized direct communication with the following:

a. Commander of Naval Forces for France. Contacts with this headquarters will be through Naval Operations, Naval Headquarters, Paris, located adjacent to Headquarters Communications Zone.

b. Commanding General, Communications Zone.

c. Commanding Officer, Ninth Air Force Detachment, Fifteenth Army.

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD**  
**Colonel, GSC**  
**Chief of Staff**

**OFFICIAL:**

**WM. E. DONEGAN**  
**Colonel, GSC**  
**A C of S, G-3**

# **HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY**

**APO 408**

**AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC**

**SUBJECT: Letter of Instructions Number Seventeen.**

**TO :** Commanding General, XXII Corps, APO 250, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, APO 454,  
U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, 106th Infantry Division, APO 443,  
U.S. Army.

1. a. See Daily G-2 Periodic Report.
  - b. Twelfth Army Group will:
    - (1) Mop up in the RUHR pocket.
    - (2) Continue the attack to the east along the axis KASSEL-LEIPZIG to gain contact with the Soviet forces. Maintain contact with Twenty-One and Sixth Army Groups.
  - c. Seventh U.S. Army will protect the south flank of the Twelfth Army Group west of BAYREUTH.
  - d. Air cooperation through Ninth Air Force Detachment, Fifteenth U.S. Army.
  - e. Communications Zone continues present mission.
2. Fifteenth U.S. Army:
- a. Continues present mission.
  - b. Will occupy, organize, and govern the remaining area within GERMANY west of the RHINE within the zone of action of Twelfth and Sixth Army Groups subject to agreement between Army commanders.
  - c. Will prepare to occupy, organize, and govern that portion of the RHEINPROVINZ east of the RHINE within the zone of action of Twelfth Army Group as soon as cleared.
  - d. Boundaries:
    - (1) Between Twelfth and Twenty-One Army Groups: International boundary at (E940125) - thence along road to GELDERN - RJ (A074262) - RJ (A088264) - RJ (A101279) - ALPEN - WESEL - BRUNEN - RAESFELD - HEIDEN - WELEN - COESFELD - MUNSTER - LUBBECKS - MINDEN - WUNSTORF - CELLE - ELDINGEN - WITTINGEN - SALZWEDEL - WITTENBERGE (all to Twelfth Army Group).
    - (2) Between Twelfth and Sixth Army Groups: SAARBRUCKEN - NEUNKIRCHEN - HOHFELDEN - OBERSTEIN - MEISENHEIM - ALZEY - OPPENHEIM - GR. GERAU - FRANKFURT (all to Twelfth Army Group) - railroad north of MAIN River to HANAU - FULDA (all to Sixth Army Group) - MEININGEN - COBURG - BAYREUTH (all to Twelfth Army Group).
    - (3) Present boundaries between Ninth and Fifteenth and between First and Fifteenth U.S. armies remain in effect, subject to future change as agreed between Army commanders.

**(4) Between Fifteenth and Third U.S. Armies:**

**Phase I and II: See overlay.**

**Phase III: See overlay.**

**The screening and patrolling of both banks of the RHINE River, the maintenance and protection of bridges over the RHINE River (including AA) within Third U.S. Army zone will remain the responsibility of the Third U.S. Army until such time as is agreed upon between the two Armies concerned.**

**(5) Between XXII and XXIII Corps: Temporary boundary: (Effective at time XXIII Corps takes over Phase I) LOSHEIM (to XXIII) - FRAUENKRON (to XXII) STADTKYLL - ALENDORF (all to XXIII) - HUNGERSDORF - MULLENBACH - VIRNEBURG - KURRENBERG - MAYEN - OCHTENDUNG - HASSEN - HEIM - RUBENACH - LUTZEL (all to XXII).**

**Permanent boundary: (Effective at a time to be agreed upon between Corps commanders) South boundary of RHEINPROVINZ Regierungsbezirke AACHEN and COLOGNE.**

**3. a. XXII Corps:**

- (1) Continue present mission.**
- (2) Be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern the remaining area in RHEINPROVINZ Regierungsbezirke AACHEN, COLOGNE, and DUSSELDORF within the zone of action of Twelfth Army Group.**
- (3) At a time to be agreed upon between Corps commander turn over to XXIII Corps that portion of Regierungsbezirk COBLENZ currently occupied by XXII Corps.**

**b. XXIII Corps:**

- (1) On or about 10 April 1945, occupy, organize, and govern that portion of the RHINE PROVINCE and WESTMARK contained in Phase I (see overlay).**
- (2) Concurrently with Phase I or as soon thereafter as possible, occupy, organize, and govern the city of COBLENZ (Phase II) (see overlay).**
- (3) At a time to be agreed upon between Corps commanders, take over that portion of Regierungsbezirke TRIER and COBLENZ currently occupied by XXII Corps.**
- (4) Be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern, at a time to be designated, that portion of RHINE PROVINCE, WESTMARK, and HESSEN contained in Phase III (see overlay).**
- (5) As additional troops become available, be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern that portion of RHINE PROVINCE, WESTMARK, and HESSEN (west of RHINE) occupied by forces of Sixth Army Group.**
- (6) Be prepared to occupy, organize, and govern that portion of Regierungsbezirk COBLENZ east of the RHINE.**

**c. 66th Infantry Division: Continue present mission.**

- d. 106th Infantry Division: Continue present mission.
- 4. Administrative instructions are being published separately.
- 5. a. Command Posts:
  - (1) Fifteenth U.S. Army - Closes DINANT (09987), BELGIUM on or about 15 April - Opens BAD NEUENAHN (F 5716), GERMANY on or about 15 April.
  - (2) XXII Corps - GREVENBROICH (F 1977), GERMANY.
  - (3) XXIII Corps - OBERSTEIN (L 7222), GERMANY.
  - (4) 66th Infantry Division - RENNES (Y 0153), FRANCE.
  - (5) 106th Infantry Division - RENNES (Y 0153), FRANCE.
- b. Signal instructions through technical channels.

BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:

O. C. MOOD  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

OFFICIAL:

WM. E. DONEGAN  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3

## HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY

APO 408

AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC

SUBJECT: Letter of Instructions Number Eighteen.

TO : Commanding General, XXII Corps, APO 250, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, U.S. Army.  
Commanding General, 66th Infantry Division, APO 454,  
U.S. Army.

1. a. See Daily G-2 Periodic Report.
- b. (1) Twelfth Army Group (less Fifteenth Army) continues to defend the general line ERZ GEBIRGE - MULDE River - ELBE River, and launches a powerful attack to gain contact with Soviet forces in the DANUBE Valley.
- (2) For occupational areas of respective armies, see Inclosure 1, Operation Map.
- (3) Third Army maintains and protects bridges over the RHINE in zone, controls traffic on approach roads to the bridges, screens and patrols both banks of the RHINE in zone.
- c. (1) Seventh Army maintains and protects bridges over the RHINE in zone, controls traffic on approach roads to the bridges, screens and patrols both banks of the RHINE River in zone.
- (2) Seventh Army attacks southeast in zone in conjunction with and protecting the right flank of Twelfth Army Group, to occupy that portion of AUSTRIA and GERMANY within its zone of advance.
- d. IX Air Defense Command is responsible for AA defense of all area west of the RHINE River, inclusive.
- e. Communications Zone renders logistical support to all Armies.
2. a) Fifteenth Army will:
  - (1) Continue present mission of occupying, organizing, and governing the portion of the RHEINPROVINZ, SAARLAND, PFALZ, and HESSEN currently held by Fifteenth Army.
  - (2) By 1200, 25 April, take over from Ninth Army and occupy, organize and govern the portion of RHEINPROVINZ east of the RHINE River south of the Twelfth - Twenty-One Army Group boundary down to the RUHR River (Inclusive).
  - (3) By 2400, 25 April, take over from First Army and occupy, organize, and govern the portion of the RHEINPROVINZ east of the RHINE and south of the RUHR River.
  - (4) By 27 April, take over and occupy, organize, and govern all former Sixth Army Group area within RHEINPROVINZ, SAARLAND, HESSEN west of the RHINE, and PFALZ exclusive of Landkreise SPEYER, LANDAU, BERGZABERN, GERMERSHEIM and also exclusive of any portion of Landkreis PIRMASENS not evacuated by the First French Army. (See Inclosure 1, Operations Map, and Inclosure 2, Operations Overlay).
  - (5) Be prepared to take over and occupy, organize, and govern the remainder of SAARLAND and PFALZ when evacuated by First French Army.
  - (6) Continue present mission of containing the ST. NAZAIRE and LORIENT pockets.



**b. Boundaries:**

- (1) **Between Twelfth and Twenty-One Army Groups:**  
Netherlands-German border at E940125 - thence along road GELDERN - RJ at A074262 - RJ at A088264 - RJ at A101279 ALPEN - WESEL - BRUNEN - RAESFELD. For extension east see Inclosure 1, Operations Map.
- (2) **Between Twelfth and Sixth Army Groups:**
  - (a) For boundary east of RHINE, see Inclosure 1, Operations Map.
  - (b) **Within Fifteenth Army Zone:**  
Phase I: Junction of SAARLAND - PFALZ boundary with French-German border - north along SAARLAND - PFALZ boundary to RHEINPROVINZ - east along RHEINPROVINZ - PFALZ boundary to (L9723) - east to (M1727) - Then along HESSEN - PFALZ boundary to RHINE River - RHINE River north to OPPENHEIM (M4439) Inclusive to Twelfth Army Group).  
Phase II: French-German border - western and northern border Landkreis BERGZABERN to Landkreis LANDAU - northern border LANDAU to Landkreis SPEYER - western and northern border Landkreis SPEYER to RHINE River - OPPENHEIM.  
Phase III: RHINE River from OPPENHEIM to LAUTELBURG (R3544).
- (3) **Between Ninth and First Armies:** See Inclosure 1.
- (4) **Between First and Third Armies:** See Inclosure 1.
- (5) **Between Fifteenth and Ninth Armies:** WESTPHALEN - RHEINPROVINZ boundary from (A3253) to (G2233).
- (6) **Between Fifteenth and First Armies:** NASSAU - RHEINPROVINZ boundary from (G2233) to (L9191).
- (7) **Between Fifteenth and Third Armies:** RHINE River from (L909) to OPPENHEIM (M4539).
- (8) **Between XXII Corps and XXIII Corps:** South boundary of Regierungsbezirke AACHEN and KÖLN (Inclusive to XXII Corps to WESTPHALEN).

**3. a. XXII Corps:**

**Troops - 94th Inf Div  
17th A/B Div  
Supporting troops**

- (1) Continue present mission of occupying, organizing, and governing the portion of RHEINPROVINZ west of the RHINE and south of the Twelfth - Twenty-One Army Group boundary contained in Regierungsbezirke DUSSELDORF, AACHEN and KÖLN.
- (2) At 1200, 25 April, take over from Ninth Army the portion of RHEINPROVINZ east of the RHINE and south of the Twelfth - Twenty-One Army Group boundary down to the RUHR River (Inclusive). Effective on take-over of the Ninth Army area, 17th Airborne Division will be attached to XXII Corps.

- (3) By 2400, 25 April, take over from First Army and occupy, organize, and govern the portion of the RHEINPROVINZ east of the RHINE from the RUHR River south to the boundary between Regierungsbezirke KOLN and KOBLENZ.
- (4) Maintain and protect (exclusive of AA) the bridges over the RHINE in zone.

**b. XXIII Corps:**

**Troops - 28th Inf Div**

**Supporting troops.**

- (1) Continue present mission of occupying, organizing, and governing the portion of RHEINPROVINZ, SAARLAND, PFALZ, and HESSEN west of the RHINE formerly occupied by the Third Army.
- (2) By 2400, 25 April, take over from First Army and occupy, organize, and govern the portion of Regierungsbezirke KOBLENZ east of the RHINE.
- (3) Maintain and protect (exclusive of AA) the bridges over the RHINE within Regierungsbezirke KOBLENZ.
- (4) By 25 April, take over from Sixth Army Group and occupy, organize, and govern the portion of RHEINPROVINZ, SAARLAND, and HESSEN west of the RHINE formerly occupied by Sixth Army Group (Phase I - see Inclosure 2, Operations Overlay).
- (5) By 27 April, take over and occupy, organize, and govern all former Sixth Army Group area within PFALZ exclusive of Landkreise SPEYER, LANDAU, BERGZABERN, GERMERSHEIM, and also exclusive of any portion of Landkreis PIRMASENS not evacuated by the First French Army. (Phase II - see Inclosure 2).
- (6) Be prepared to take over the remainder of PFALZ when evacuated by First French Army (Phase III - see Inclosure 2).

**c. 66th Infantry Division will continue present mission.**

**4. Administrative provisions will be issued separately.**

**5. a. CP's:**

**XXII Corps - GREVENBROICH (F1977) (Closes 25 April) HILDEN (F4386) (Opens 25 April).**

**Others            No change.**

**b. Signal instructions will be issued through technical channels.**

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff**

**OFFICIAL:**

**WM. E. DONEGAN  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S. G-3**

## HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY

APO 408

AG 312.1 (15th A) GNMDC

**SUBJECT:** Letter of Instructions Number Nineteen.

**TO :** Commanding General, XXII Corps, APO 250, US Army.  
Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, US Army.

1. a. Twenty-One Army Group continues the relief of Ninth Army forces in the British final occupation zone.

b. Seventh Army:

- (1) Takes over from Ninth Army those portions of the provinces of ANHALT, HALLE-MERSEBURG, and SAXONY which are in the Twelfth Army Group zone, the provinces of THURINGIA, KURHESSEN, NASSAU, that part of HESSEN which lies east of the Rhine River, and the Bremen Enclave. Also, takes over from Ninth Army the Berlin Task Force, in place, pending its final assignment to Headquarters Berlin District.
- (2) Passes to control of Third Army those portions of AUSTRIA and the state of BAVARIA now held by Seventh Army.
- (3) Occupies, organizes and governs the US Western Military District as modified by the present and later the final French zone of occupation.

c. Third Army:

- (1) Takes over from Seventh Army those portions of AUSTRIA and the state of BAVARIA now held by that Army.
- (2) Occupies, organizes and governs the US Eastern Military District as modified by the present and later the final French zone of occupation.
- (3) Occupies, organizes and governs under a corps headquarters that part of AUSTRIA in Twelfth Army Group zone; is prepared on order to turn this area over to Fifteenth Army Group.
- (4) Continues the occupation of that part of CZECHOSLOVAKIA in zone until relieved.

d. Ninth Army, upon relief from occupation duties, prepares for re-deployment.

e. First French Army continues occupation of its present zone in GERMANY and AUSTRIA pending the delineation of a French final zone of occupation.

f. Inter-Army transfers of areas prescribed in paragraphs 1 b and c will take effect on 15 June 1945 and troops now occupying these areas will pass to the Army concerned concurrently with transfer of the areas.

2. Fifteenth Army will:

a. Turn over to Twenty-One Army Group the northern portion of the RHEINPROVINZ consisting of Regierungsbezirke DUSSELDORF, AACHEN and KÖLN.

b. Be prepared to turn over to the French, on order, the remainder of the zone now occupied.

**3. a. XXII Corps:**

- (1) Turn over to 1 Corps District (Twenty-One Army Group) Regierungsbezirke AACHEN, KÖLN and that portion of DUSSELDORF within the XXII Corps area as mutually agreed between 1 Corps District XXII Corps and Fifteenth Army. (Reference letter, Headquarters Fifteenth Army, file AG 092 GNMDC, dated 1 June 1945, subject: "Agreement Between Fifteenth US Army and 1 British Corps for Turn-over of XXII Corps Area to 1 British Corps.) Turn-over will be completed by 21 June.
- (2) Be prepared to turn over Regierungsbezirke AACHEN and KÖLN, an operational control of US combat troops in those areas to 1 Corps District any time after 15 June, on short notice, in event of redeployment movement orders for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XXII Corps.
- (3) Upon relief from occupation duties, prepare for redeployment.

**b. XXIII Corps:**

- (1) Be prepared to turn over to the French, on order, the XXIII Corps Area.
- (2) Be prepared to turn over, on short notice, control of XXIII Corps Area to another US headquarters to be designated in event of redeployment movement orders for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, XXIII Corps, prior to turn-over of area to the French.
- (3) Upon relief from occupation duties, prepare for redeployment.

**4. Current administrative instructions apply.**

**5. Signal communications instructions through technical channels.**

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD**  
Colonel, GSC  
Chief of Staff

**OFFICIAL:**

**WM. E. DONEGAN**  
Colonel, GSC  
A C of S, G-3

# **HEADQUARTERS FIFTEENTH US ARMY**

**APO 408**

**AG 312.1 (15th A) CNMDC**

**SUBJECT: Letter of Instructions Number Twenty.**

**TO : Commanding General, XXIII Corps, APO 103, US Army.  
Commanding General, 106th Infantry Division, APO 443,  
US Army.**

**The following confirms oral instructions previously issued by this headquarters:**

**1. a. XXIII Corps will turn over to First French Army SAARLAND, PFALZ, HESSEN west of the RHINE, and the RHEINPROVINZ Regierungsbezirke of TRIER and KOBLENZ as mutually agreed between First French Army and Fifteenth US Army (reference letter, Headquarters Fifteenth US Army, dated 2 July 1945, subject: Agreement for Turn-Over of Fifteenth US Army Area to First French Army”).**

**b. Relief of US units in SAARLAND, PFALZ, and HESSEN west of the RHINE will be completed and area control will pass to the First French Army at 1200, 10 July 1945.**

**c. Target date for completion of relief of US units in RHEINPROVINZ Regierungsbezirke of TRIER and KOBLENZ, and the passing of area control to the First French Army is 1200, 10 July 1945.**

**2. 106th Infantry Division, concurrently with the passing of area control by XXIII Corps to the First French Army, will pass to the control of the First French Army all PWTE's located in the area, together with all remaining German PW's and enemy civilians confined in these enclosures.**

**BY COMMAND OF LIEUTENANT GENERAL GEROW:**

**O. C. MOOD  
Brig Gen, GSC  
Chief of Staff**

**OFFICIAL.**

**JOHN A. GAVIN  
Colonel, GSC  
Actg A C of S, G-3**

**APPENDIX NO. 4**

**GERMAN ATTITUDE TOWARD OCCUPATION**



(This report covers the period from 290800 March to 211200 April. It is a consolidation of interviews of German nationals by MII and CIC Teams and surveys submitted by subordinate units engaged in occupational duties. In interpreting this report, it must be borne in mind that (a) the answers were given by defeated German nationals to armed American military personnel; that (b) the majority of the German nationals interviewed were from predominantly Catholic regions which were known to have accepted Naziism somewhat passively; and that (c) many of these people had remained in their homes despite coerced evacuation by the SS and were considered "traitors" by the Nazi government.)

In general the German nationals in the area surveyed were not hostile to American Military Government; were agreeably surprised by the good conduct of our troops, considered requisitioning of their property for military needs as a rightful price of defeat; blamed the Nazis for their misfortunes; held their own army in high esteem; and were as yet too apathetic to even consider political action towards reconstruction of a German government acceptable to the Allies.

Whenever requisitioning was done legally or with a show of legality in the proceedings, the population accepted it submissively and without serious complaint. However, illegal requisitioning of personal property or malicious, heedless, or needless destruction caused resentment. On the whole, requisitioning, legal or otherwise, was accepted as the lot of the conquered.

Likewise, military government laws, proclamations, and edicts were obeyed without question. Some Germans seemed to regard them as an answer to all their problems and expected from them a bettering of their living conditions. Generally, the leniency accorded German nationals by the military government came as a surprise, but the monetary fines for minor infractions of military government laws were regarded as unusually stiff. There were complaints because alleged Nazis had been appointed to office by the military government and because no uniform policy seemed to exist in areas where a permanent military government detachment and a temporary divisional detachment had conflicted.

Generally speaking, the individual German went out of his way to curry favor with the Americans for various reasons, most of them selfish or insincere. First, he wanted to prove that he was a "good" German and that he had never been a Nazi at heart, knowing that his future economic position in the community could be decidedly influenced by his pre-occupation actions. Secondly, the individual German curried favor in an effort to mitigate his war guilt by blaming his plight mainly on the Nazis and at the same time speaking well of the Americans.

No organized sabotage was evident in the area of occupation during the period covered by this report. The Germans themselves feared any such action might endanger their comparative well-being.

During this period, Germans showed their characteristic industry by rehabilitating their personal possessions, farm and home. Cognizant of the

food shortage, the farmers willingly cooperated with German officials appointed by the military government to plow and seed their fields, despite mines. Fear of starvation this winter was stronger than fear of the uncovered mine. In the smaller towns there was a tendency to cultivate vegetable gardens. In the mining districts the miners showed no reluctance to continue working.

*Rehabilitation* In community enterprise, however, the German were somewhat slower in cleaning up the refuse of war because of the shortage of labor and a reported disdain to do menial work. The long range rehabilitation filled some Germans with despair. There was no scorched earth program in the area surveyed. Instead, many of the civilians who remained behind did so to protect their property.

A large proportion of the persons living in the area of occupation professed the Roman Catholic faith. In general, the Church proved a stabilizing influence and the only Germanic institution remaining to the German nationals for refuge. Members of the churches assisted the military government in the administration and public welfare exercises previously denied them by the Nazis. However, the Catholic Church was very chary of stepping over the borderline of religion into politics, as yet not knowing the Allied attitude in his regard. In the Krefeld area some criticism of the influence of the Church had already been made by Leftist political factions.

The Nazi Party was blamed for Germany's present plight and was universally loathed. A Nazi who became so voluntarily, hoping to benefit himself or his country thereby, was an extremely rare individual. A divisional staff officer summed up the German attitude as follows:

"All Germans, given the opportunity, present loud disclaimers of any shred of affection for the Nazi Party. The Allied Forces are obviously here under a misapprehension, as such a universally loathed institution could never have existed among these people."

The Party, not the German Army, committed the unforgiveable crime of losing the war. There seemed to be no moral repugnance on the part of the present ardent non-Nazis to blame the Party for having started the war.

Provided the Nazi administrator had not been an ardent or fanatical Nazi and was a good administrator, the civilian population was willing to overlook his Party connections and did not complain too much if military government officials elected him to keep office. Any American-appointed official, ardent or passive Nazi, however, brought a series of complaints. That was one way to curry favor, better one's own position in the community through American friendship, or settle a personal account. For the Nazi official who fled, no punishment was too severe.

Generally, the German people continued to show admiration for the Wehrmacht, its generals and its soldiers in the field. Many *Wehrmacht* were unable to understand why the German generals, who were still considered above the Party, were still amenable to Party discipline. Distinction was still made between the regular army officers and the Nazi officers.

At the present writing, the political future of Germany. in the minds of the Germans, had not been given great thought, other than how long and how severe the occupation might be, who would occupy where, and what the eventual peace terms would be. What the German *Political* thought should be Germany's future was of no consequence what- *Future* soever at this time to the Allies. the Germans said, and therefore they thought about the future only in the light of what the Allies were going to do. Reports on separatist feeling in the Rhineland, particularly in that portion lying on the west bank, were largely in the negative. A few indicated that separatist feeling did exist and could be nourished if it would mean less than a proportionate share of the war punishment for the Rhinelanders.

The Allied ban on political activity coupled with a lack of able leadership, had hampered what little vigorous party activity might have taken place. In some areas there were indications that Labor, Catholic Conservatives, and Communists were beginning to make attempts to reform again. The Communist Party showed able leadership with moderate tendencies and a willingness to cooperate with military authorities. However, a fear of Communism seemed to be widespread among the Germans.

**APPENDIX No. 5**

**MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN COLOGNE**

US Military Government Detachment E1H2 entered the city of Cologne on the seventh of March, two days after its capture by the Third Armored Division. The city had been severely damaged by aerial bombardment and street fighting. The utilities were generally inoperative. No electricity or communications were available and water was obtained from a few designated water points. The city presented most of the problems confronting a Military Government detachment in its duties to reestablish the civilian life of a community.

Detachment E1H2 had on its staff specialists in all lines of civilian endeavor, such as utilities officers, transportation officers, banking and property control officers, education officers etc.

With the arrival of the US forces the officials of the city of Cologne fled with the retreating Germans. They took with them all the vital and important records they were capable of transporting. All the police records and the records of the Nazi officials were missing. So to reestablish government, the detachment was forced to rely entirely upon information obtained from cooperative German civilians.

In the early days of the occupation and before the control of the area became stabilized under Fifteenth US Army, five different divisions occupied the area successively. This resulted in numerous changes in curfew hours, security zones and other regulations. The detachment was faced with the problem of attempting to prevent the change in regulations with each change of control by a different division. They did accomplish this to a marked degree of success.

When the US forces entered the city a typhus epidemic was threatened. The detachment immediately took steps to isolate all known typhus cases, dusted the civilians with DDT powder and hospitalized the most serious cases. The total number of typhus cases in the city was held to 156 and by 24 March, the epidemic was under control.

The detachment immediately undertook the problem of establishing a city government. In compliance with orders from SHAEF, no civilian who ever had been a member of the NSDAP or its affiliates was appointed to any office. Such persons were used only as common laborers. The police system was first rehabilitated. A few civilians, free of Nazi taint, were found and immediately appointed as a police force for the city of Cologne. The labor and food branches of the administration were next formed. The other branches of the administration followed as quickly as suitable personnel could be uncovered. Registration of all civilians was the next step. The banking district of the city was heavily damaged during the air raids and most of the banking was done in the basements of the former bank buildings. With the approach of the Americans a large share of the money in the banks was removed further into Germany along with the bank records. Military Government courts were quickly established. Offenders against the Military Government laws, ordinances and proclamations which had been posted upon the initial entry of the American troops, were quickly brought to trial and sentenced in accordance with the severity of the crime. Most of the offenses were for

violations of circulation and curfew ordinances. The schools had been closed since October 1944. An early survey of the school buildings was made and it was found that more than 60% of its schools had been totally destroyed. Cologne normally employed about 1,000 school teachers. There were 280 uncovered in the city after Americans assumed control. After investigation approximately 100 were found qualified to be appointed teachers by American standards. Parochial schools were not permitted to reopen. The detachment devoted a major portion of its time and efforts in effecting as far as possible the procedure of de-nazification of the German people and government.

The transportation system within the city was at a complete standstill. Preliminary surveys were made and it was determined that certain sections of the trolley system could be reestablished within two weeks.

In all the work of selecting officials for positions in the administration, it was necessary to coordinate all selections with CIC. Before anyone was appointed to an administrative position or employed in any manner, that individual was approved for the position by CIC.

As soon as the Americans entered Cologne requests were made by the clergy of the city for permission to hold church services. This was immediately granted and thereafter the regularly scheduled church services were held throughout the city.



**APPENDIX No. 6**

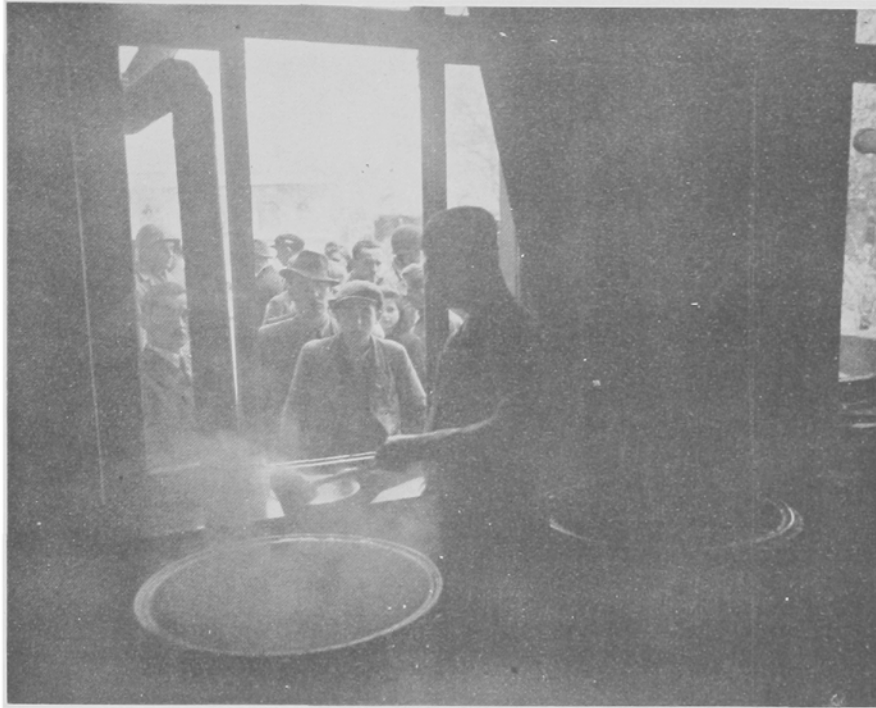
**DISPLACED PERSONS**



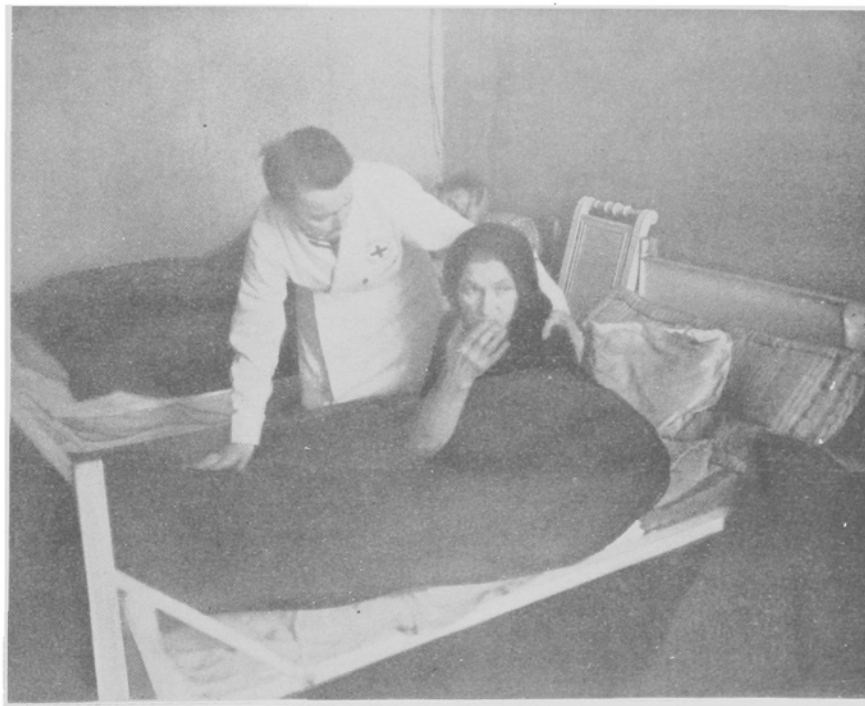
Displaced Polish persons wait on ration line at Polish Center at Jucken, Germany. Food was supplied by Germans and prepared by Poles. Photo taken 9 April 1945.



Displaced Polish persons prepare first meal in five years in kitchen at Jucken. Germans were evacuated and quarters given to Poles. Photo taken on 9 April 1945.



Slave workers receiving hot food at mess hall established at Jucken Displaced Persons Camp. Food was supplied by Germans and prepared by Poles. Photo taken 9 April 1945.



Feeble-minded Polish woman liberated from factory at Jucken. Polish nurse, also a former factory worker, cared for her in infirmary established at the Jucken Center. Photo taken 9 April 1945.



Displaced person sleeping on trash pile in garage at 'Displaced Persons' Center, Trier.  
Background: one man shaving another. Photo taken 16 April 1945.



Section of room where 48 persons live under crowded conditions in Displaced Person's  
Center, Wittlich, Germany. Photo 18 April 1945.

One of the most difficult problems of occupation was the care, feeding and repatriation of displaced persons. In the Fifteenth US Army's area at the beginning of its operations were over 300,000 such non-Germans who had been imported from their native lands as prisoners-of-war or conscript laborers.

The principal problem in connection with these people was to house and feed them while segregating them by nationality and arranging for their return home.

The main nation involved in this mass transfer of displaced persons was Russia, which had furnished more than 90 per cent of the forced laborers in Germany. There were also large numbers of Poles and Czechs among the Eastern Europeans. Besides the French, Dutch, Belgians and Luxembourgers, there were considerable numbers of Italians among the Western Europeans whom the Germans had been using in the Rhineland.

In each corps of the Fifteenth US Army, a subordinate unit, such as a field artillery battalion, was charged with carrying out the mission of supervising the reception, housing, processing, physical control and transportation homeward of the displaced persons. In turn of these units delegated to the commanders of separate centers and camps the task of obtaining accurate and detailed information and maintaining records necessary for the work of higher headquarters. This was in addition to caring for the physical needs of the camp occupants, conducting required inspections and making any changes found necessary. At each camp a qualified line officer was in command.

Over-all administration and centralized supply were the responsibility of the corps involved. To implement this, an extensive liaison arrangement was made between army, corps, UNRRA, CIC, the sub-area commands and the military government detachments having immediate jurisdiction. Arrangements were made through Fifteenth US Army for the necessary liaison officers and interpreters for each group of nationals.

Steps in the handling of the displaced persons were collection, registration, segregation by nationalities in larger and more permanent type camps, screening by CIC to remove suspicious or criminal individuals for special treatment, checking by the liaison officers and, finally, return to the country of individual origin as soon as transportation could be arranged. At each move, each individual was inspected for disease and treated as necessary. Delousing powder was found to be effective in the prevention of epidemics of typhus, and all diseases were firmly controlled.

Insofar as was practicable, management within the camps was through discipline exerted by leaders chosen by the people to be governed. The Russian government gave full cooperation in this matter.

Policy in regard to food was that it should be furnished by local German sources or from captured German supplies, with a minimum calorie allotment of 2,000 per day per person. It was rarely found necessary to supplement food stocks from American sources. All cooking was done in community kitchens and meal record cards were used to provide adequate control.



Bearing their only possessions upon their backs, these two Russians arrived at the Displaced Persons Camp near Krefeld on 8 April 1945.



This family was among a group of liberated men and women just arriving at Krefeld, Germany. Photo taken 8 April 1945.

Sanitation was made a responsibility of the individual in his own quarters and of the group in its own camp, with standards being set at approximately the same level as for US Army personnel. Much work had to be done at first by Army Engineers in order to raise the sanitary standards to this level from the deplorable conditions found at the beginning. The American Red Cross also assisted in the work.

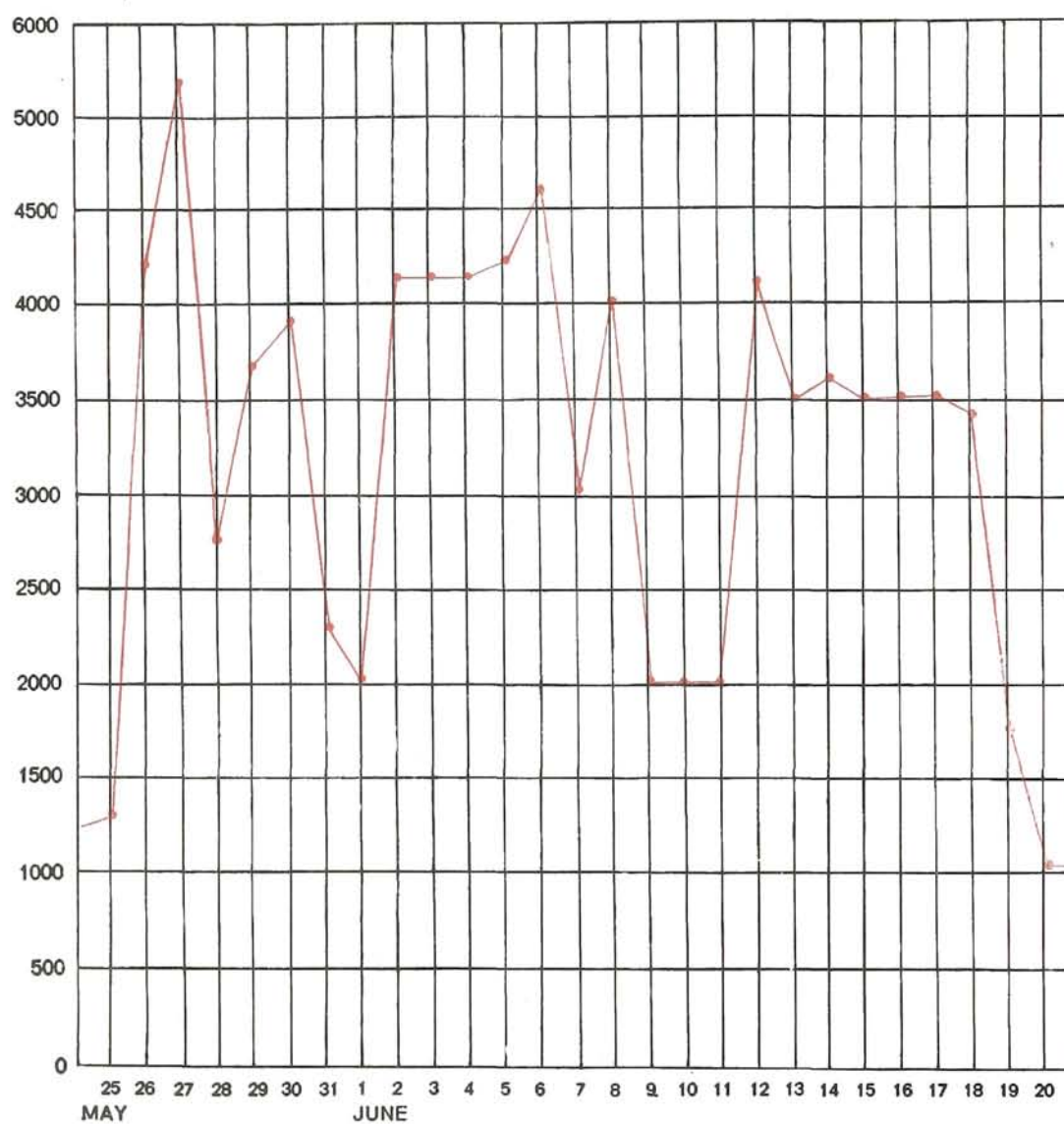
During their stay in the camps, the displaced persons were allowed fullest possible expression of leadership by individuals, in discipline as well as in organizing instruction and entertainment. The Red Cross assisted by providing textbooks and recreational equipment.

When the Fifteenth US Army ceased operations on 10 July, 20,848 displaced persons remained in the area. All the Russians and Italians had been evacuated to their homelands. Only a few miscellaneous and stateless persons among the Western Europeans remained. The bulk of the displaced persons left in the area were Poles, whose evacuation was delayed pending completion of arrangements for their repatriation. During its period of operations the Fifteenth US Army repatriated a total of 167,252 displaced persons.

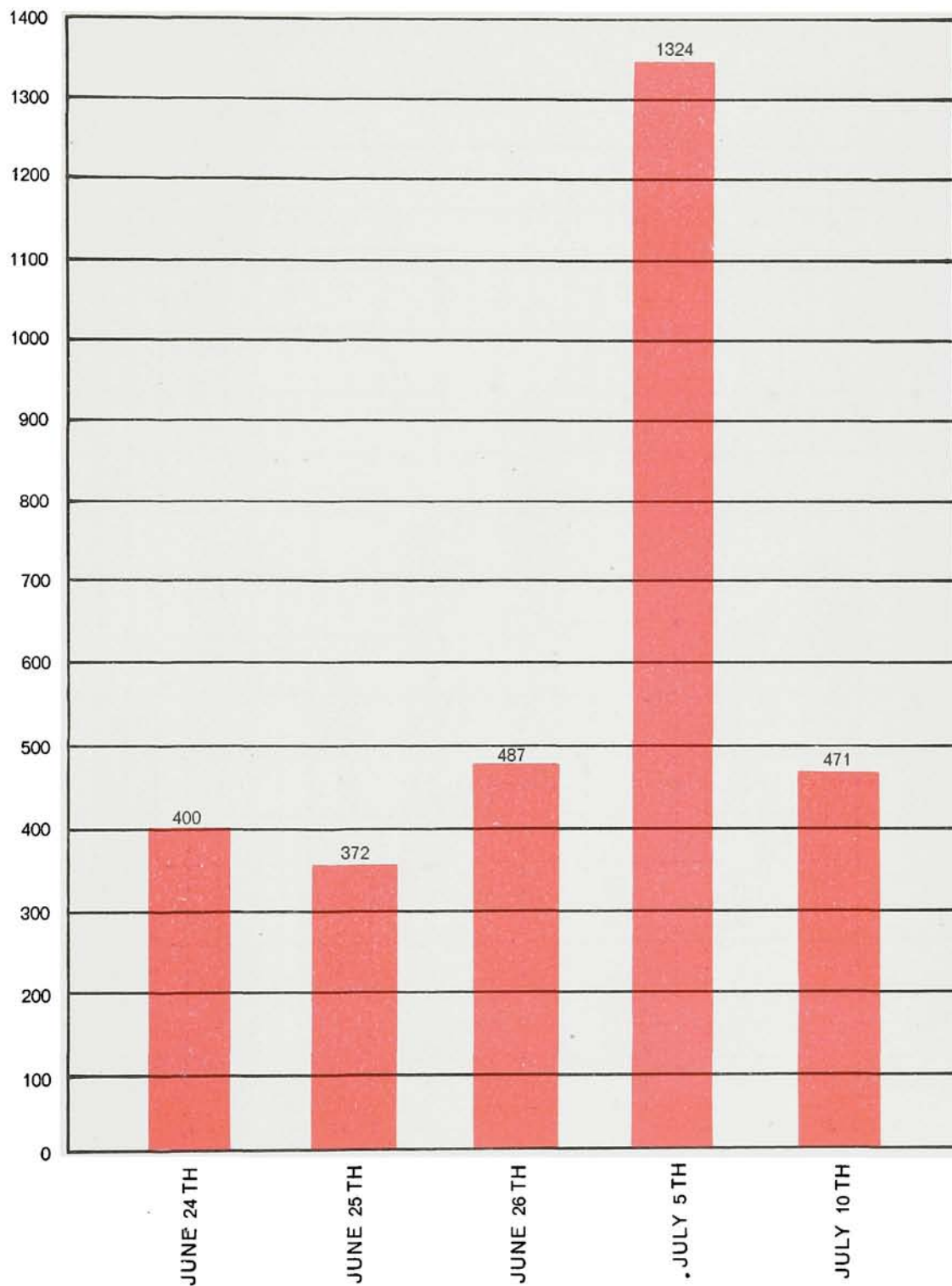


# TOTAL NUMBER OF DISPLACED PERSONS EVACUATED BY RAIL AND AIR

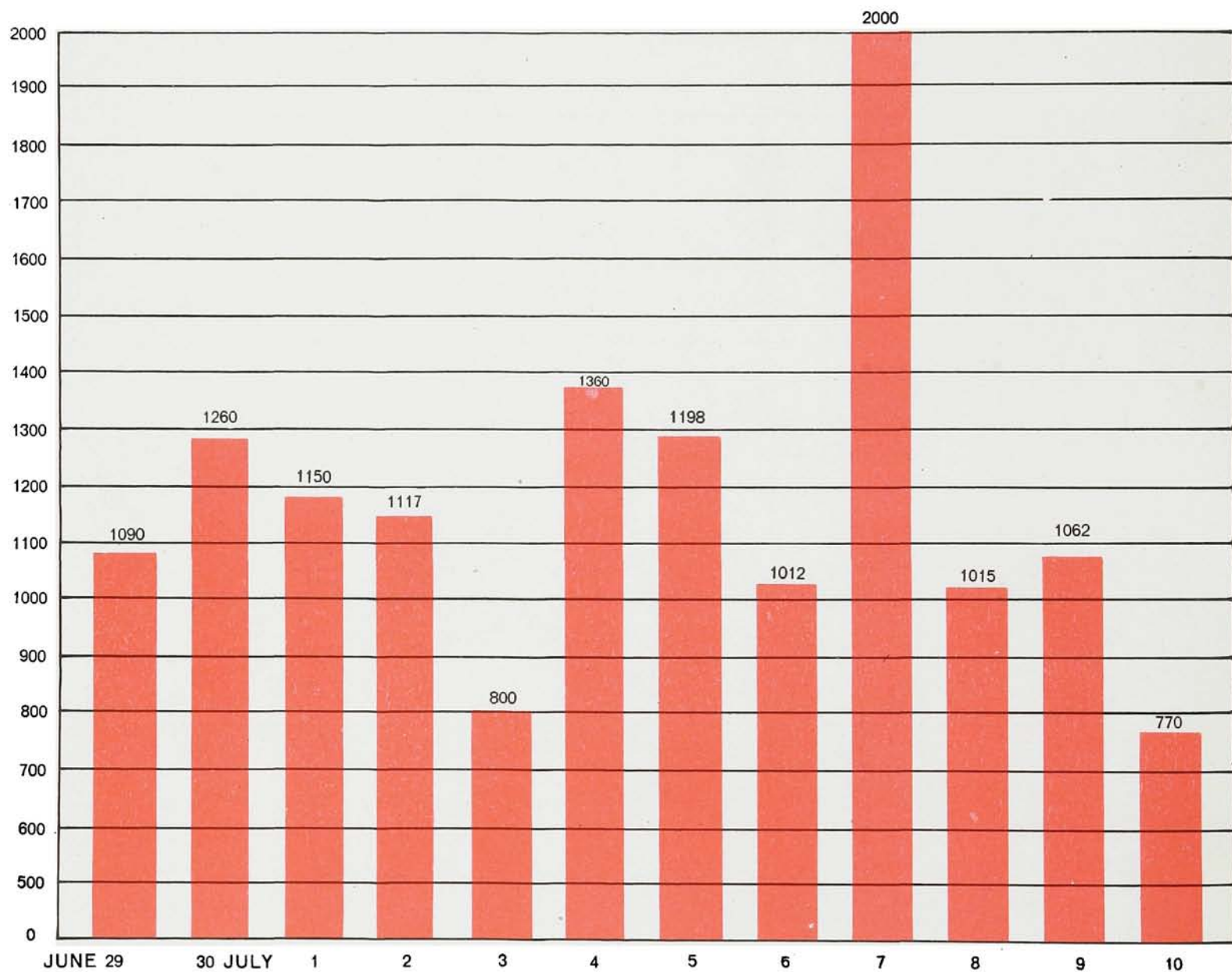
25 MAY TO 20 JUNE 1945



"DISPLACED PERSONNEL" EVACUATED BY  
HOSPITAL TRAIN FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY AREA  
24 JUNE TO 10 JULY 1945

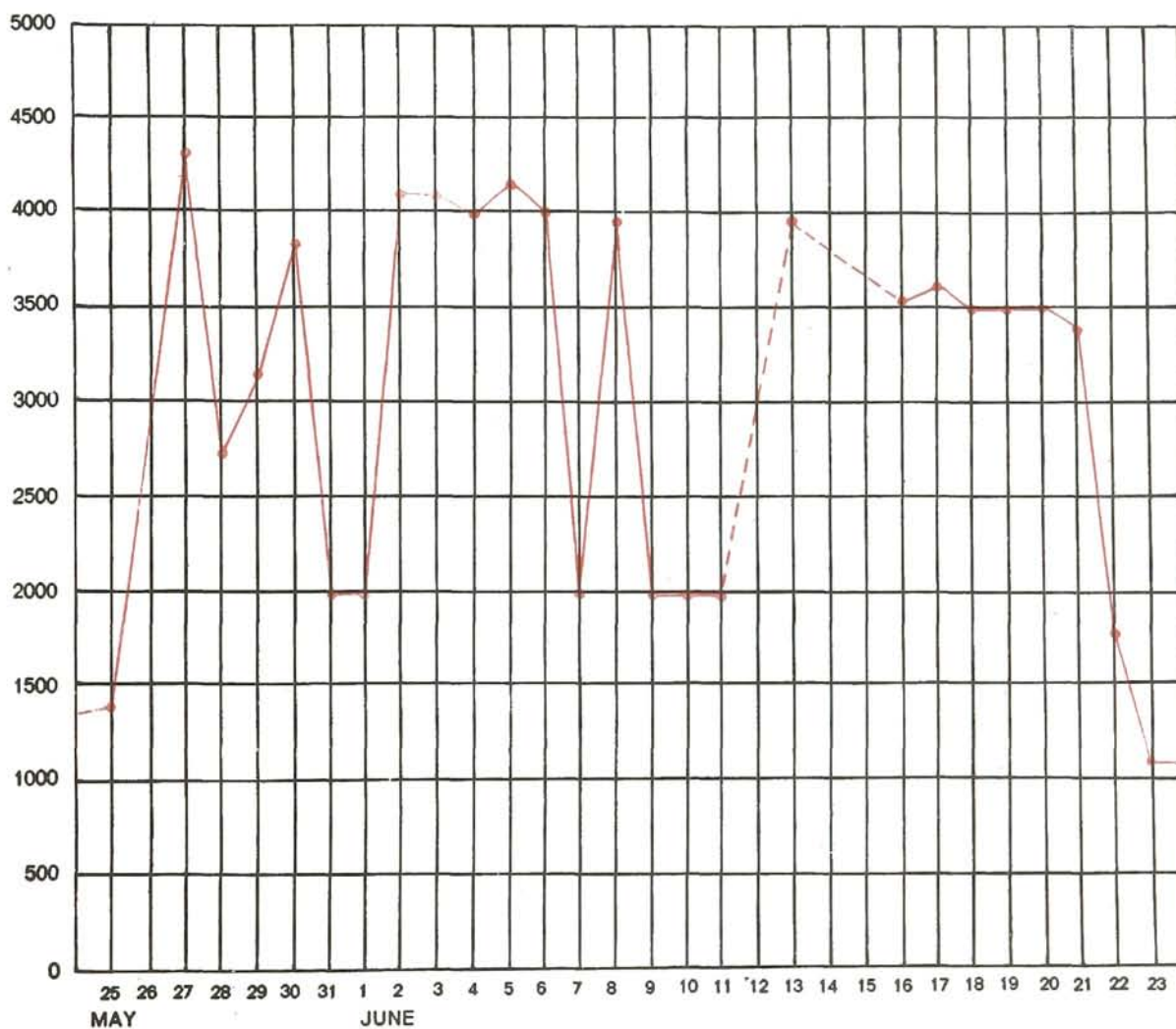


"ITALIAN DISPLACED PERSONNEL" EVACUATED  
BY RAIL FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY AREA  
29 JUNE TO 10 JULY 1945



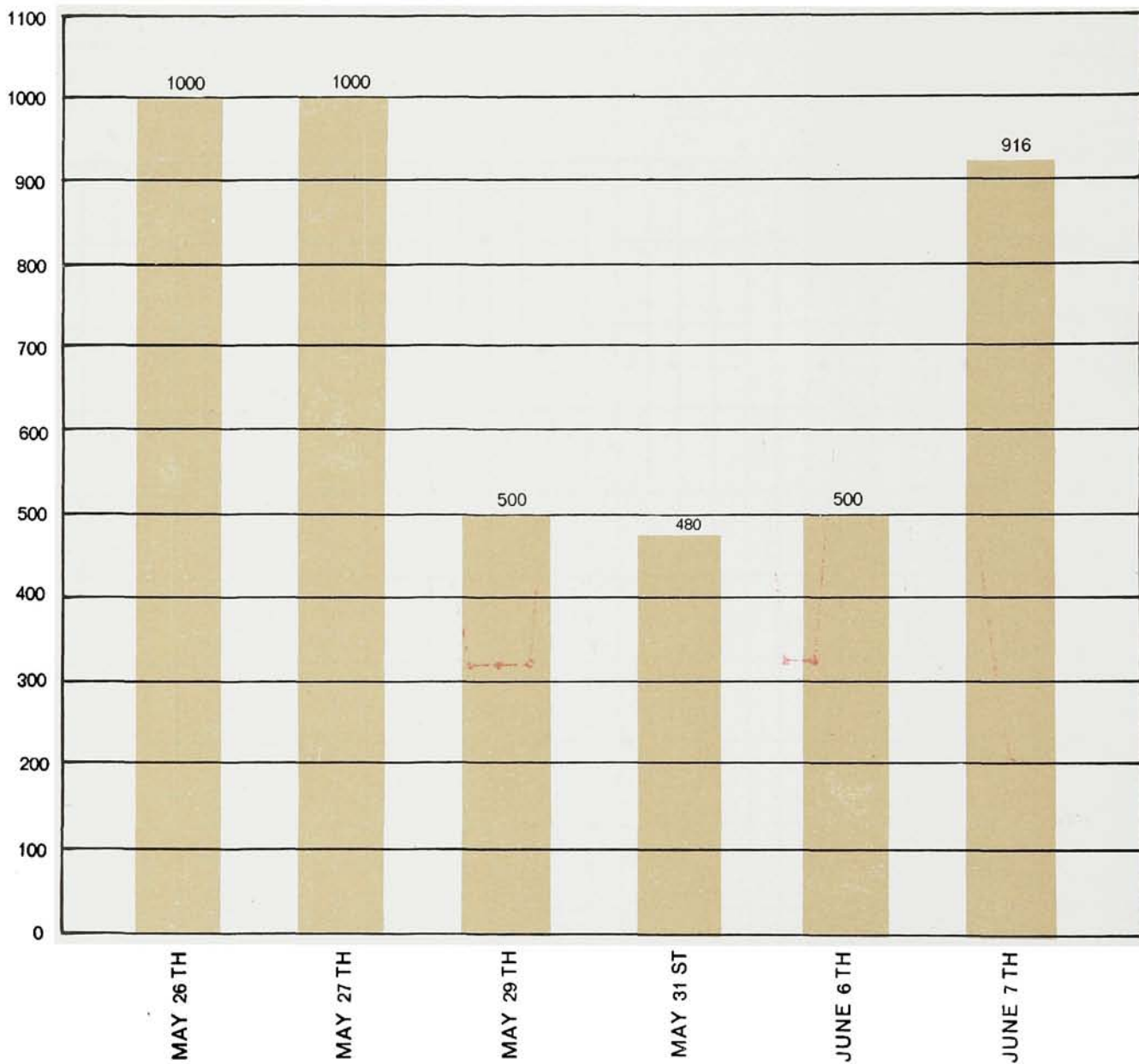
# TOTAL NUMBER "RUSSIAN DISPLACED PERSONS" EVACUATED BY RAIL

25 MAY TO 23 JUNE 1945



NOTE: BROKEN LINE DENOTES DAYS OF NON-SHIPMENT O RUSSIAN DISPLACED PERSONNEL DUE TO NON-AVAILABILITY OF RAIL TRANSPORTATION

“RUSSIAN DISPLACED PERSONNEL” EVACUATED  
BY AIR FROM 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY AREA  
26 MAY TO 7 JUNE 1945



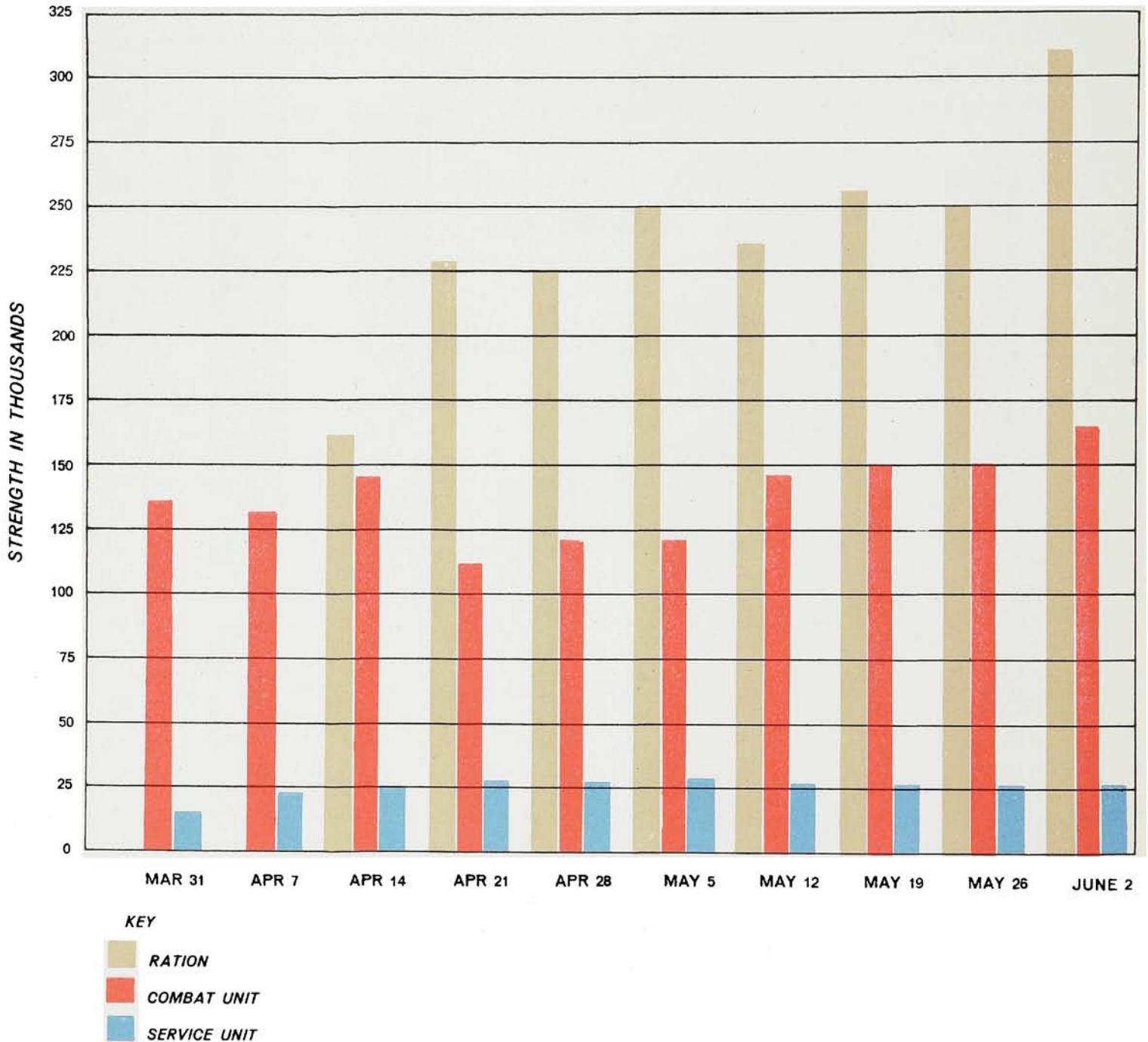
**APPENDIX No. 7**

**LOGISTICAL DATA**



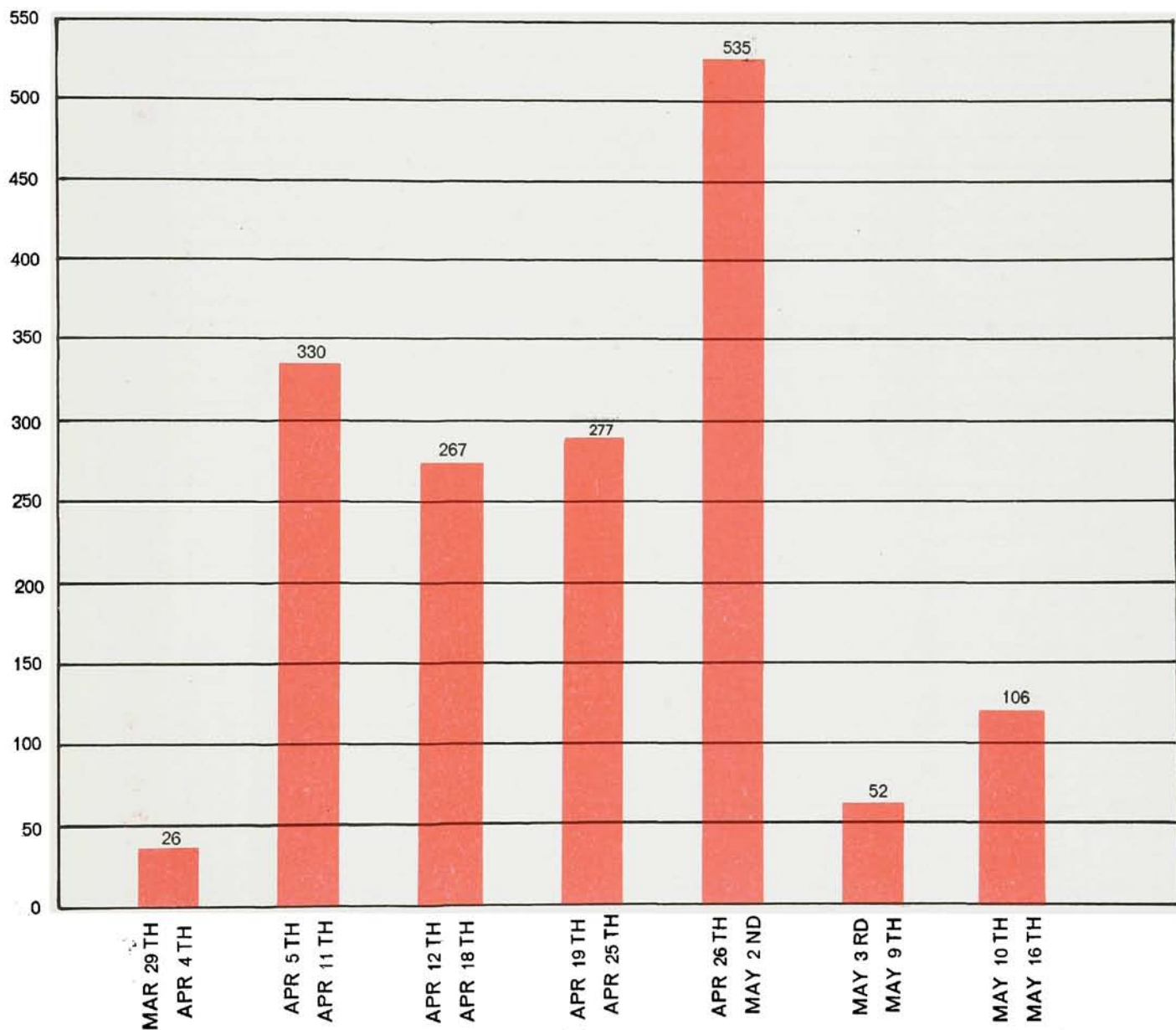
# STRENGTHS

COMBAT AND SERVICE UNITS - 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY ASSIGNED STRENGTH RATION -  
STRENGTH OF ALL UNITS DRAWING FROM FIFTEENTH ARMY CLASS I AND III  
INSTALLATIONS INCLUDING AIRFORCE. ADSEC. ETC.

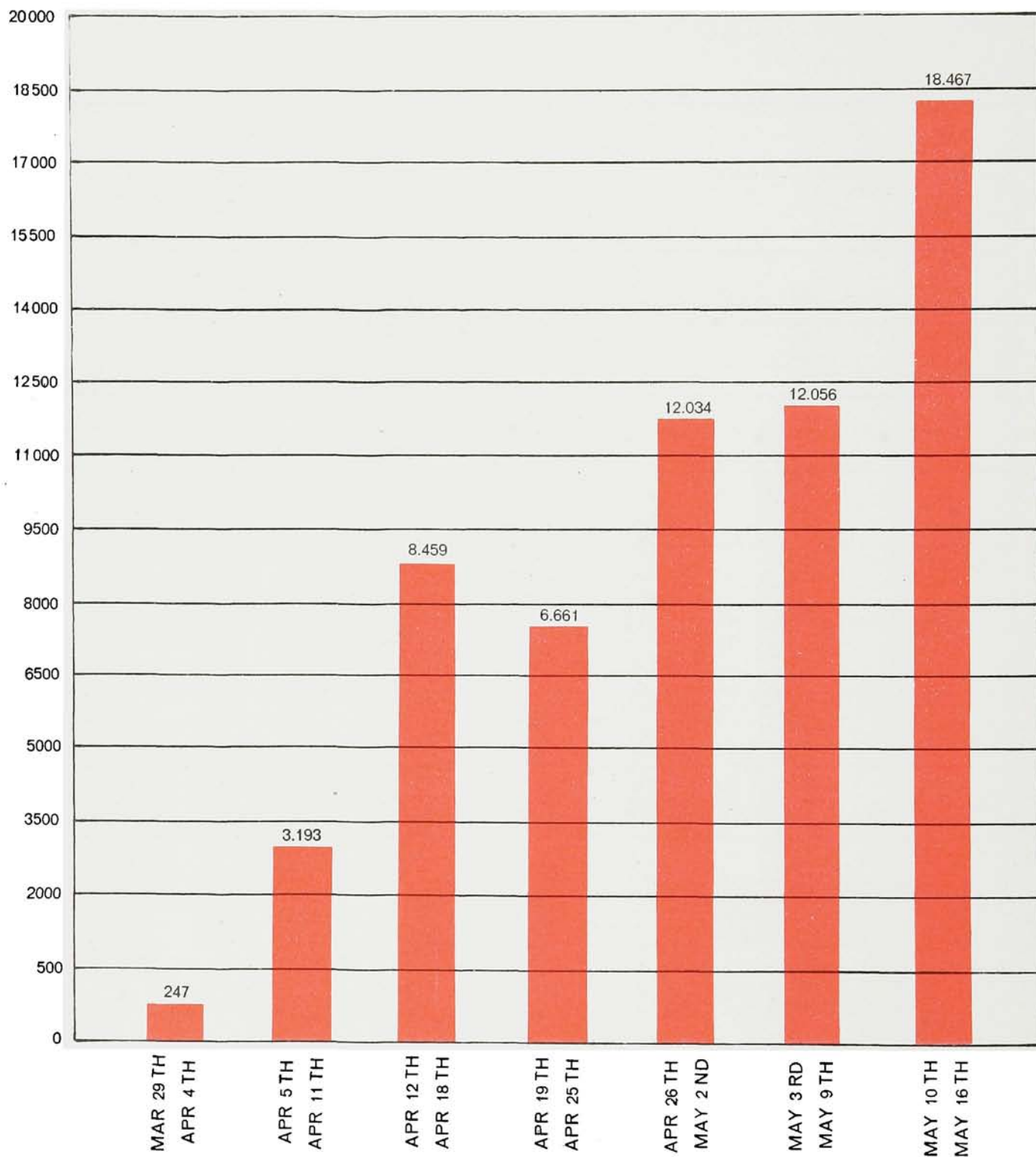




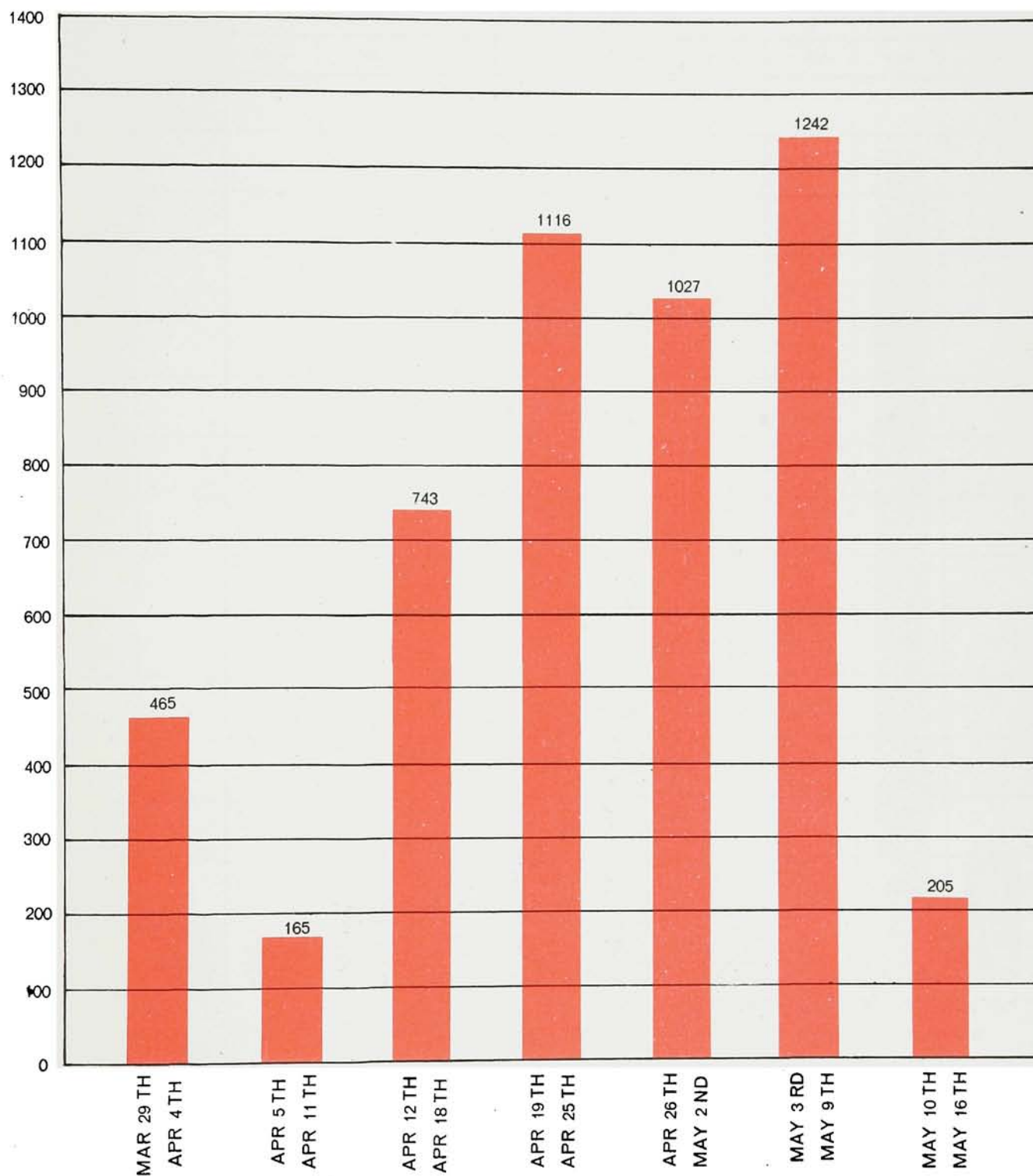
# TOTAL TRUCK TONNAGE OF SUPPLIES TRANSPORTED BY ADSEC TO 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY 29 MAR TO 16 MAY 1945



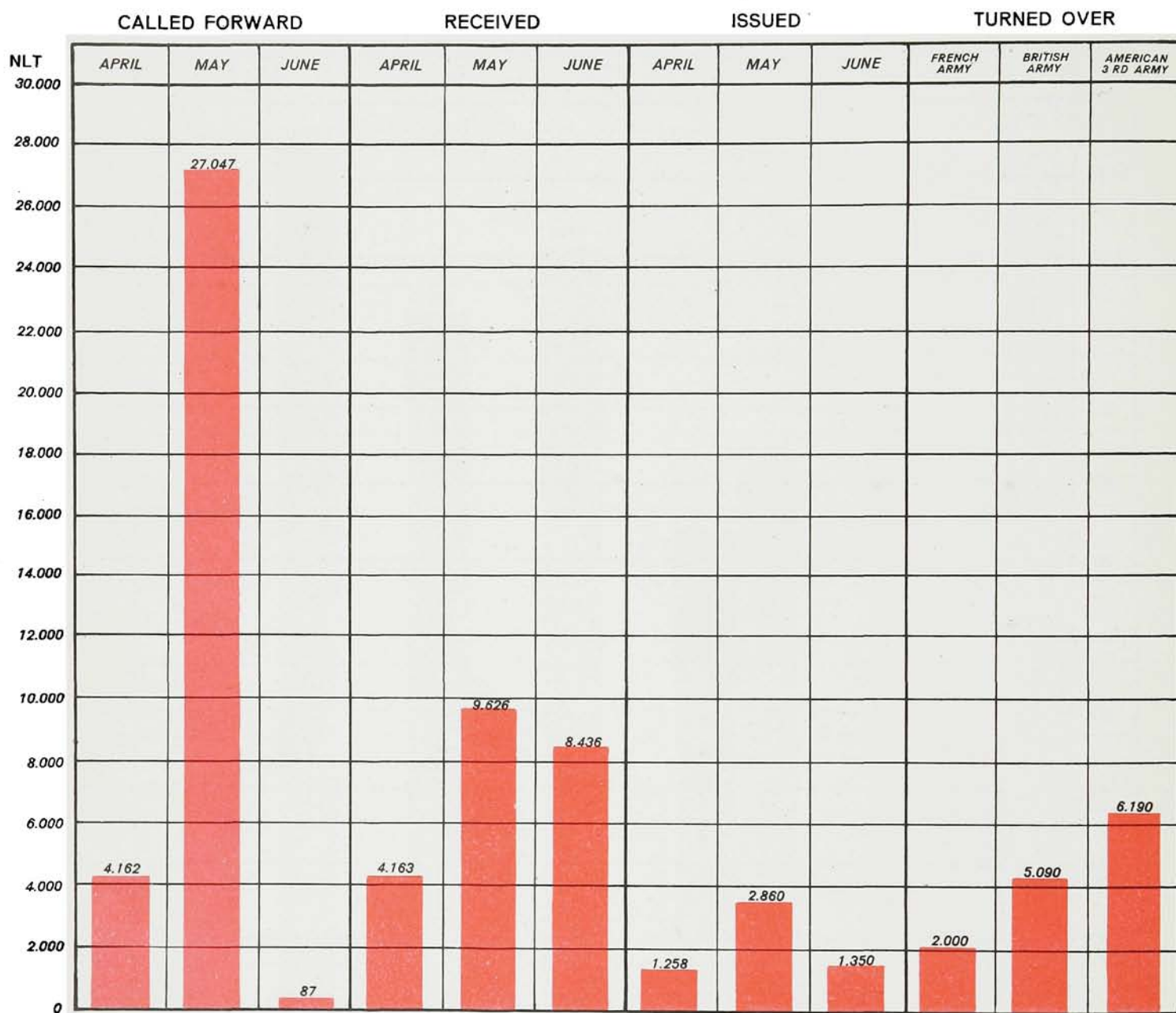
# TOTAL RAIL TONNAGE OF SUPPLIES TRANSPORTED BY ADSEC TO 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY 29 MAR TO 16 MAY 1945



# TOTAL TRUCK AND RAIL TONNAGE OF SUPPLIES TRANSPORTED BY 15<sup>TH</sup> ARMY 29 MAR TO 16 MAY 1945



# IMPORTED FOOD SUPPLEMENTING INDIGENOUS FOOD STOCKS FOR FEEDING OF DISPLACED PERSONS \*



\* POPULATION (DISPLACED PERSONS)




































































MONTH	AVERAGE
APRIL	118.708
MAY	293.432
JUNE	142.911
JULY (TO 12 TH)	27.493



# TOTAL SIGNAL ITEMS RECEIVED AND ISSUED 10 APRIL - 8 MAY 1945

## RECEIVED

## ISSUED

<b>CABLE ASSEMBLY</b> <b>CC - 358 (SPIRAL)</b>	             	     
<b>WIRE, W - 110</b>	         	 
<b>TELEPHONES</b> <b>(ALL TYPES)</b>	      	
<b>FLASHLIGHTS</b> <b>TL - 122</b>	      	     
<b>BATTERIES, DRY</b>	           	 



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 100 REELS



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 1000 MILES



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 500



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 500



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 50,000

27 FEBRUARY - 10 JULY 1945

EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 2,000,000 b.m.

EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 5,000 LONG TONS



EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 1,000 LONG TONS

EACH SYMBOL EQUALS 1,000 LONG TONS

MAUBERT FONTAINE, FRANCE  
795 27 FEB - 15 MAR

STOLBERG E 151  
15 MAR - 2 MAY

MEISENHEIM E 152  
15 APR - 10 JULY

BONN E 153  
2 MAY - 4 JULY

WILlich E 154  
28 MAY - 10 JULY

BUIR ASP 1501  
ORD CLASS V

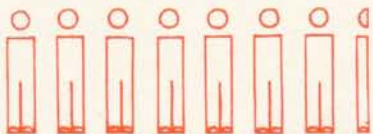
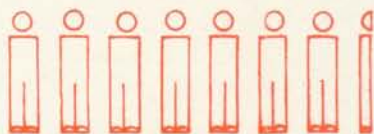


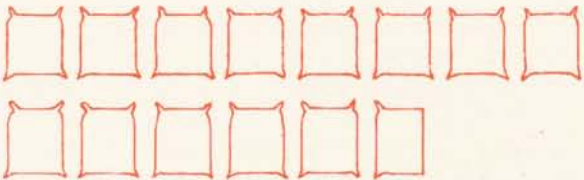
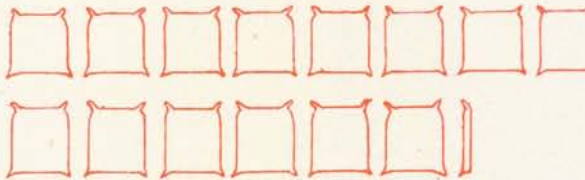




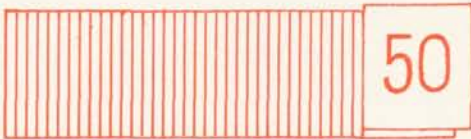
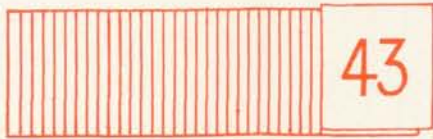
WEINSHEIM ASP 1503  
ORD



# FOOD SITUATION - THE XXII CORPS AREA

AS OF MAY 15

AS OF JUNE 15

POPULATION	 3.972.047 INCLUDING 205.408 DP'S	 3.949.136 INCLUDING 192.347 DP'S
TOTAL FOOD <i>INCLUDING CIVILIAN, CAPTURED AND IMPORTED FOODSTOCKS</i>	 74.527 METRIC TONS	 78.399 METRIC TONS
CIVILIAN FOOD-STOCKS	 69.583.5 METRIC TONS	 70.404 METRIC TONS
AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION	 1.951 METRIC TONS	 2.551 METRIC TONS
DAYS OF SUPPLY <i>(ACTUAL CONSUMPTION)</i>	 38	 30
DAYS OF SUPPLY <i>CONSIDERING FARM PRO- DUCTION AND HIDDEN FOODSTOCKS</i>	 50	 43



EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 500.000 PEOPLE





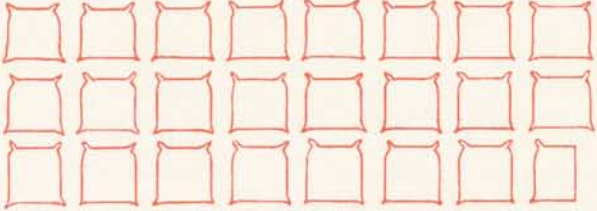
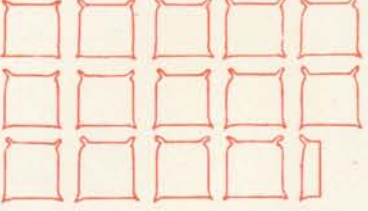
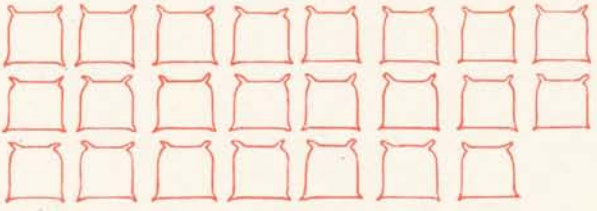
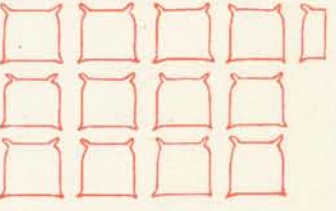






EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 5000 METRIC TONS



# FOOD SITUATION - THE XXIII CORPS AREA

AS OF MAY 15

AS OF JUNE 25

POPULATION	 2.976.519 INCLUDING 102.723 DP'S	 3.020.266 INCLUDING 40.940 DP'S
TOTAL FOOD <i>INCLUDING CIVILIAN, CAPTURED AND IMPORTED FOODSTOCKS</i>	 118.035 METRIC TONS	 70.423 METRIC TONS
CIVILIAN FOOD- STOCKS	 115.033 METRIC TONS	 62.836 METRIC TONS
AVERAGE DAILY CONSUMPTION	 1.729 METRIC TONS	 2.225 METRIC TONS
DAYS OF SUPPLY <i>(ACTUAL CONSUMPTION)</i>	 68	 32
DAYS OF SUPPLY <i>CONSIDERING FARM PRO- DUCTION AND HIDDEN FOODSTOCKS</i>	 70	 50



EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 500.000 PEOPLE

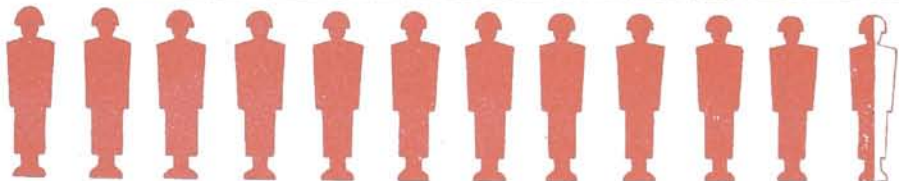
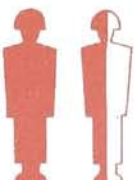
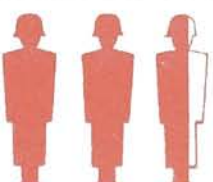


EACH SYMBOL REPRESENTS 5000 METRIC TONS




# GRAVES REGISTRATION ACTIVITIES DURING APRIL MAY JUNE 1945

## EVACUATIONS

TOTAL

AMERICAN		1166
ALLIED		132
ENEMY		265

## BURIALS STROMBERG MILITARY CEMETERY

AMERICAN		8
ALLIED		2
ENEMY		369




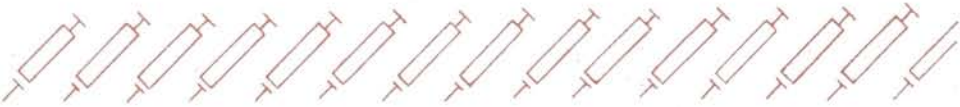

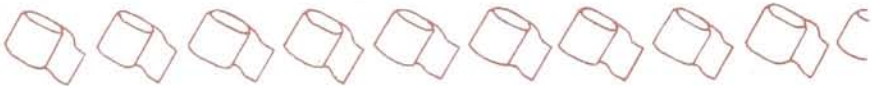







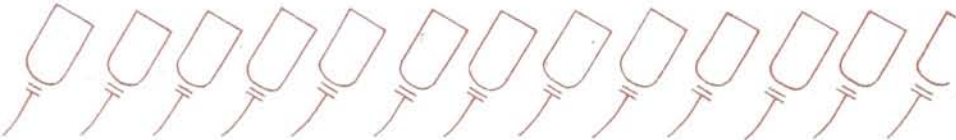
EACH UNIT REPRESENTS 100 DECEASED



EACH UNIT REPRESENTS 10 DECEASED

# TOTAL ISSUES OF SELECTED MEDICAL ITEMS

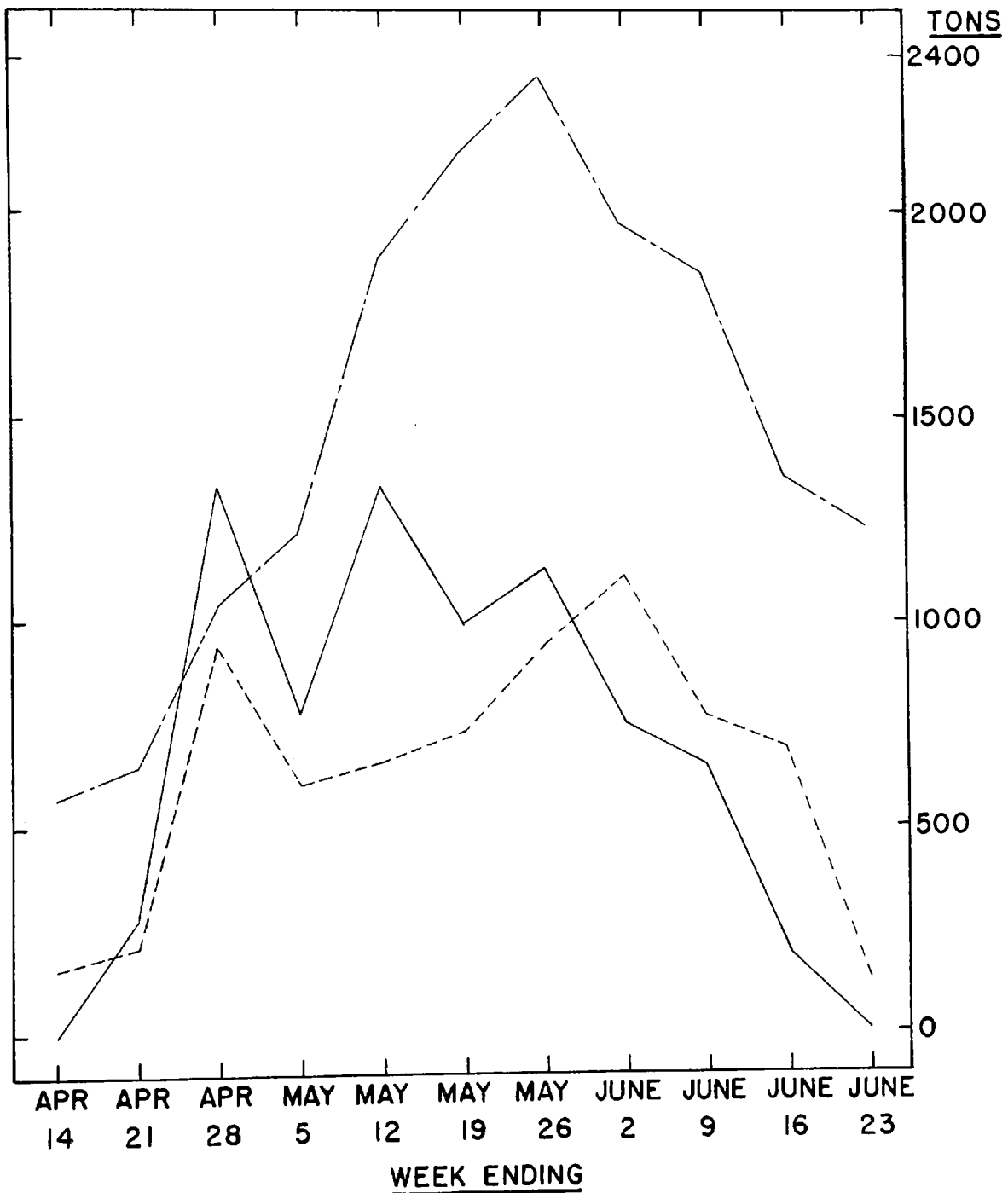
1 MAY 1945 - 31 MAY 1945

<p><b>PENICILLIN</b> (100,000 UNIT VIAL)</p>  = 1000 VIALS	 <p>14787 VIALS</p>
<p><b>DRESSINGS</b> (PACKAGES)</p>  = 1000 PACKAGES	 <p>4102 PACKAGES</p>
<p><b>TYPHUS VACCINE</b> (20 CC VIAL)</p>  = 500 VIALS	 <p>3704 VIALS</p>
<p><b>DENTAL BURS</b> (PACKAGES OF SIX)</p>  = 100 PACKAGES	 <p>1784 PACKAGES</p>
<p><b>SUTURES</b></p>  = 100 PACKAGES	 <p>1342 PACKAGES</p>
<p><b>DRIED BLOOD PLASMA</b> (250 CC PACKAGES)</p>  = 100 PACKAGES	 <p>1241 PACKAGES</p>

# ORDNANCE CLASS II & IV SUPPLIES

## LEGEND

RECEIVED ———  
ISSUED - - - - -  
ON HAND - · - · -

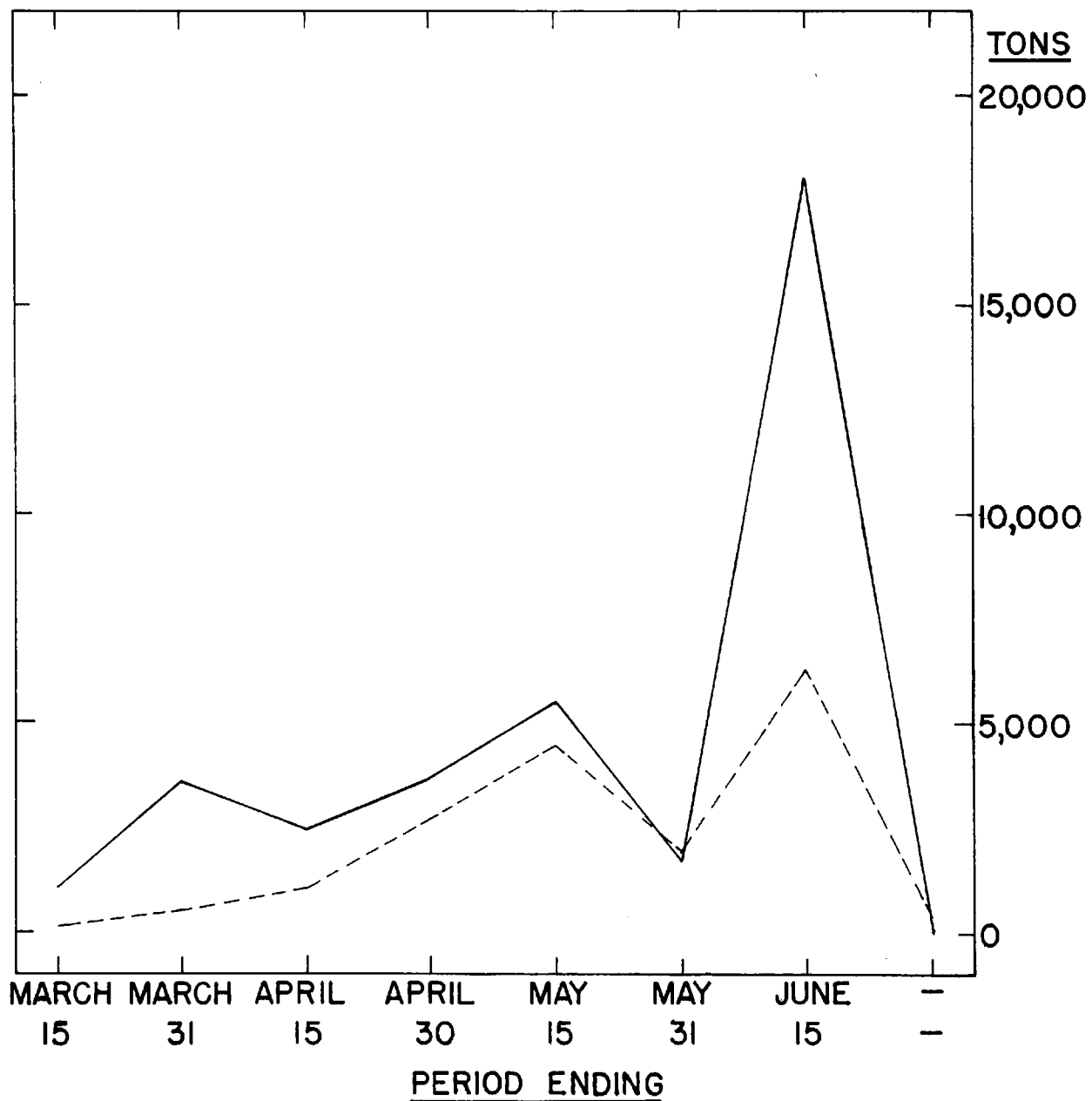


# MAJOR ITEMS OF ORDNANCE EQUIPMENT

## LEGEND

RECEIVED ———

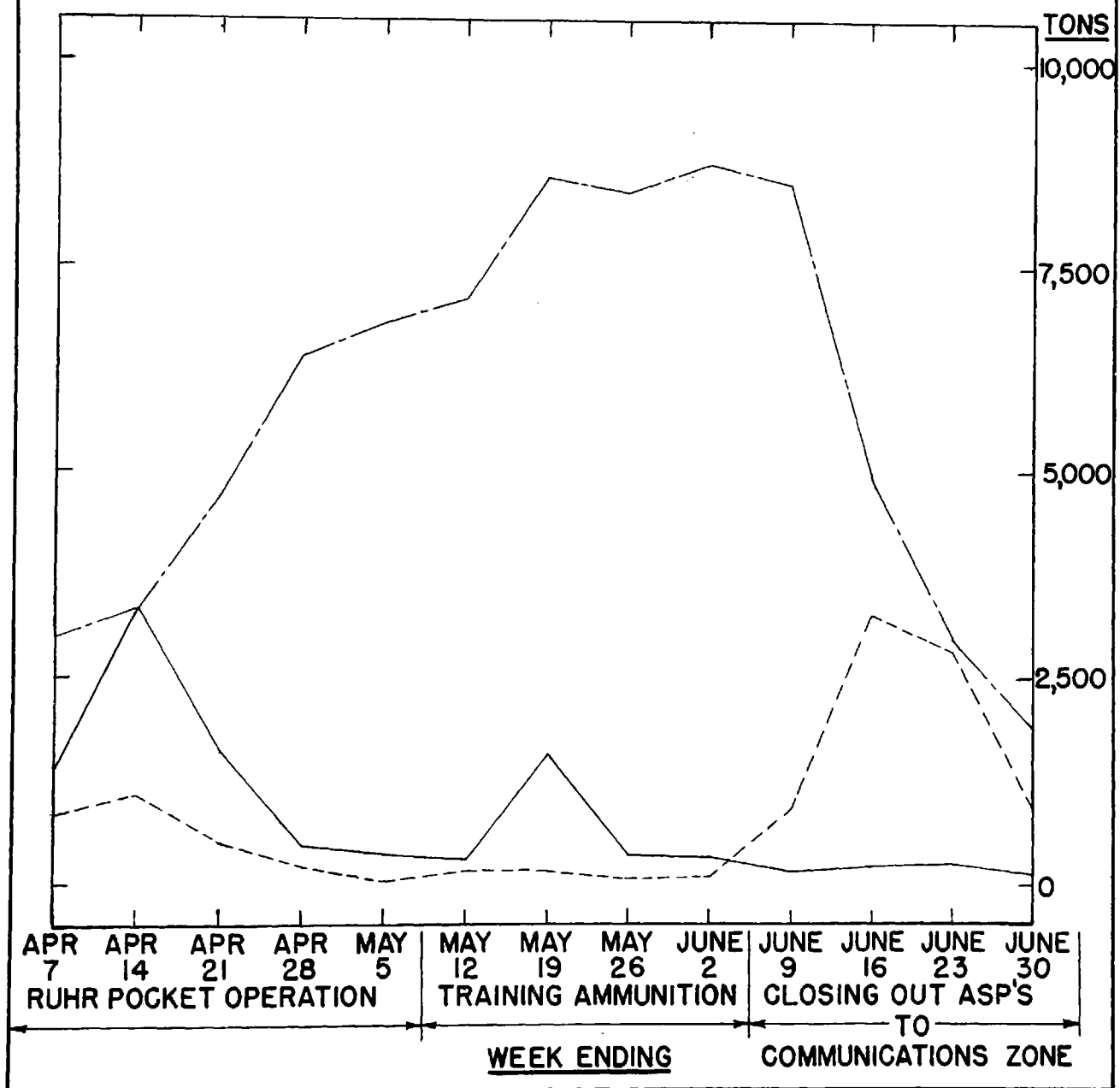
ISSUED - - - -



# U. S. AMMUNITION

## LEGEND

RECEIVED ———  
 ISSUED - - - - -  
 ON HAND - - - - -

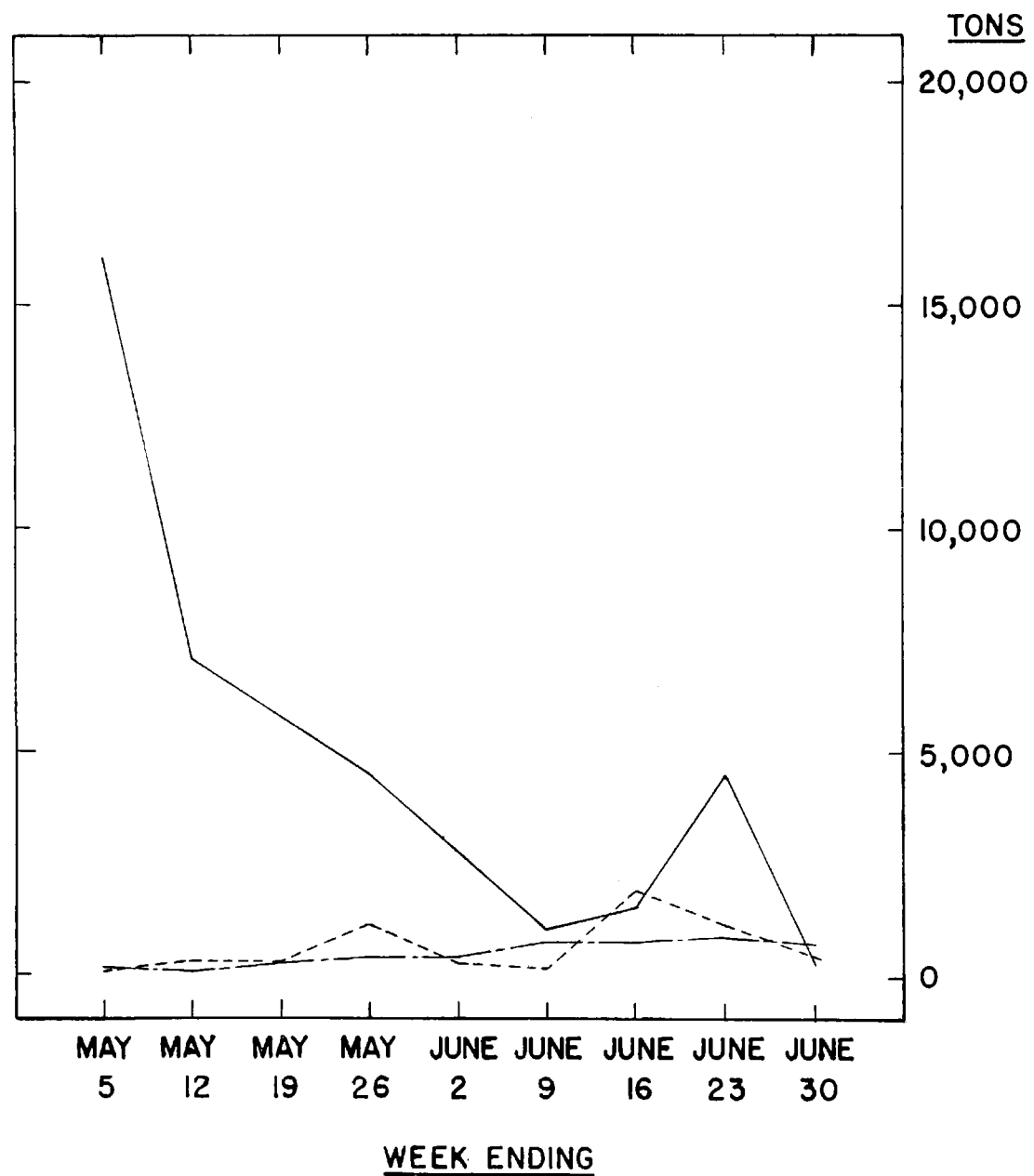




## ENEMY AMMUNITION

### LEGEND

REPORTED (APPROX.) ———  
EVACUATED TO ASP'S - - - - -  
DESTROYED - - - - -

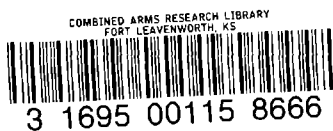




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69733

COMMAND AND GENERAL STAFF SCHOOL  
Fort Leavenworth, Kansas

**LIBRARY REGULATIONS**

1. Books, pamphlets, and periodicals must be charged at the loan desk (signature on book-loan card) before being taken from the Library.

2. Any item drawn from the Library must be returned within one month.

Exceptions to this regulation are as follows:

- (1) Material issued to classes as a whole.
- (2) Material issued to instructors for professional use.
- (3) New books which are in demand must be returned within one week.
- (4) Books required for faculty use are subject to recall at any time.
- (5) All persons having library material in their possession will return same before leaving the post permanently.
- (6) Books loaned outside the School must be returned within two weeks.

3. Reference books and current periodicals will not be removed from the library.

